

YOU COULD WIN A \$1,000 SHOPPING SPREE! See page 8

DECEMBER 2015

# Country Living

OH, WHAT FUN!

128  
IDEAS FOR  
A HAPPY

Holiday

Festive  
wreaths  
page 80

50  
AMAZING  
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\$50

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Country Living

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DECEMBER 2015



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**WHICH COVER DID YOU GET?**

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**Tree cover:** Photograph by Monica Buck; produced and styled by Karin Lidbeck-Brent. **Mantel cover:** Photograph by Burcu Avsar; styling by Jami Supsic.

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signal bars.**



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# editor's note



## DOWN-HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

I spent quite a few years living in New York City, and believe me when I say the Big Apple sure knows how to twirl it up this time of year. But despite the razzle-dazzle of department store windows and the delight of the 45,000 twinkling lights dotting the Rockefeller Center tree, I find there's ample magic in the understated, underrated holiday rituals of Small Town, USA. Take, for instance, the Christmas parades (page 77) like the ones I grew up attending in West Tennessee. Now I would not suggest you add mine to your bucket list—Michael Bublé, I am certain, will not be performing this year—but growing up it was the event of the holiday season. I remember standing in the cold as I watched tractors haul nativity scenes until—*thwack!*—I found myself walloped by a peppermint tossed by a kid perched on a truck bed hay bale.

So as we were planning "Have Yourself a Very Country Christmas" (page 74), it struck me that the best ideas were usually, quite refreshingly, the simplest. Brown paper packages tied with colorful yarn (page 81). A tobacco basket-turned-card display (page 77). Stockings made from salvaged feed bags and grain sacks (page 76). It got me thinking about the little sapling in *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, and how—still, on the 50th anniversary—its humble beauty leaves me feeling all, well, sappy.

So I hope this issue, with its homespun felt ornaments (page 17), wagon wheel wreath (page 80), and shortcut cookies (page 98), reminds you to savor the less-showy moments of the holiday season. And if you do feel compelled to check out the Dyersburg, Tennessee, Christmas parade, don't be surprised if (spoiler alert!) Santa looks a little like the bank president. Share your simple country moments at #smalltownholiday, and see mine on Instagram: @rachelhardage.

Rachel

Rachel Hardage Barrett  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



The U.S. Postal Service is marking the 50th anniversary of *A Charlie Brown Christmas* with Forever stamps. At right, a Charlie-inspired tree in all its humble beauty (\$15; homedepot.com).



## MORE WAYS TO COUNTRY UP YOUR CHRISTMAS



I'm going to take this 17-inch zinc windmill for a spin on my mantel. \$24; shopterrain.com



Someday I hope to get my hands on a real deal Wagoneer, but until then I'll make do with this pillow. \$20; target.com



Perhaps I'll justify the cost of this toy tree house by giving it as a group gift. Toddlers share, right? \$199; landofnod.com



This fun wrapping paper reminds me of my dad's old blue pickup truck. \$8; belleandunion.com



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# Country Living

No electricity required for this 12-foot strand of felt bulbs. \$29; [landofnod.com](http://landofnod.com)

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# the Country DOZEN

TWELVE REASONS CL READERS LOVE  
DECEMBER IN THE COUNTRY

Lantern  
Lights, \$29;  
[elights.com](http://elights.com)



1. "Baking and planning Christmas brunch."

**MICHELE BUSKE, WEST MILFORD, NJ**

2. "Wrapping pretty presents—it's all about the packaging!"

**TIFFANY ZUCH, POTTSTOWN, PA**

3. "Bundling up to beat the chill."

**MAE THOMPSON, CULPEPER, VA**

4. "Getting caught under the mistletoe!"

**ALISHA TILBURY, DALLAS, TX**

5. "Twinkly Christmas decorations!"

**RANDI KNOT, MESA, AZ**

6. "Being a child again, if only for a little while."

**GEORGIA KELLY, LANCASTER, OH**

7. "Our grown-up sledding party, followed by hot drinks and Christmas cookies!"

**CHERI ANSELM, BIG LAKE, AK**

8. "Walks in the woods right after a heavy snow."

**PATRICIA KENNEDY, BELLEVILLE, PA**

9. "Reading the funny letters that my teens wrote to Santa when they were young."

**ALISON MICHAUD, COLLIERVILLE, TN**

10. "A blazing fire in the hearth."

**JOAN HILLEY, DOWNTON, PA**

11. "Decorating my first house for the holidays."

**LAURA ROYAL, JOHNS ISLAND, SC**

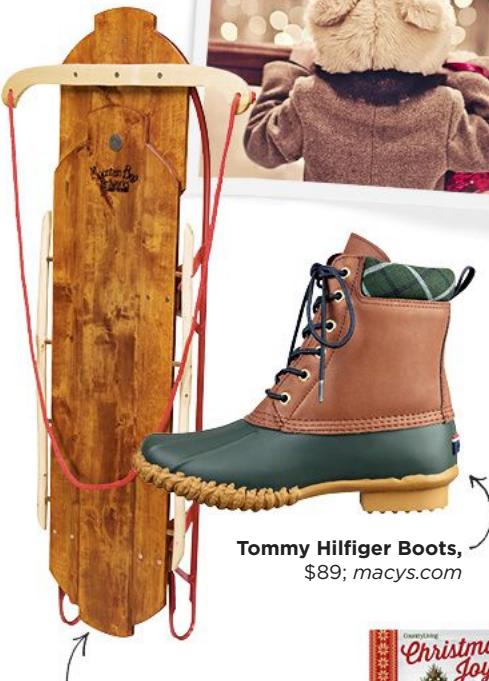
12. "Stockings filled with fresh oranges."

**LOUISE WHITT, FORT MYERS, FL**

What are you looking forward to about March in the country? Share your answers at [countryliving.com/mar16](http://countryliving.com/mar16). Our 12 favorites will receive a copy of *Country Living Christmas Joys: Decorating, Crafts, and Recipes* and a chance to appear in our March 2016 issue! See page 103 for rules.

## TALK TO US!

CAKE, RYAN RAY PHOTOGRAPHY; LANTERN LIGHTS, TAGS, HAT AND GLOVES, RANDY MAYOR; CHILD WITH LIGHTS, PAINT THE MOON; HOUSE, ASHLEY DRU.



Classic Flyer Sled,  
\$190; [shophorse.com](http://shophorse.com)



## TALK TO US!



Hat, \$28, and  
Touchscreen  
Gloves, \$29;  
[verloopknits.com](http://verloopknits.com)

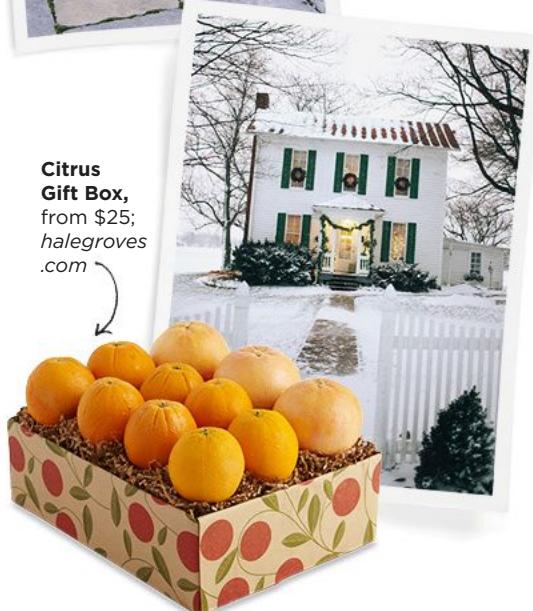


Classic Mistletoe,  
\$8; [mistletoe.com](http://mistletoe.com)



## MEET OUR READER PET OF THE MONTH!

**Backyard hen Hannah**  
strikes a coy pose for the  
Bruzzone family's holiday  
greeting card at their San Jose,  
CA, home.



Citrus  
Gift Box,  
from \$25;  
[halegroves.com](http://halegroves.com)



# Country Living

## 12 DAYS OF GIVEAWAYS

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Country Living is giving away items from our "Field Guide to Holiday Gift-Giving" (see page 51). Plus, one lucky prizewinner will get **\$1,000!**



Once a day, from DECEMBER 1 TO 12, enter for a chance to win.

Simply go to [countryliving.com/12days](http://countryliving.com/12days)

**GRAND PRIZE: RECEIVE \$1,000 CASH!**

See page 103 for contest rules.

COME BACK  
EVERY DAY  
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# The **CHECK** List

COMPLETELY FUN, NO-OBLIGATION WAYS TO ENJOY THE COUNTRY THIS MONTH



## BRING THE OUTSIDE INSIDE

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

Turn the page to see how we used this image of a decked-out red truck to steer us toward a festive living room.



PHOTOGRAPH BY RJ SANGosti/GETTY IMAGES.



**1. MARQUEE SIGN**  
Make your space merry and bright with this light-up tin wall hanging. **Sign**, \$175; [horchow.com](http://horchow.com)

**2. FROSTY PAINT**  
Coat your walls a neutral, blue-gray hue as pure as the driven snow. **First Snowfall**; [benjaminmoore.com](http://benjaminmoore.com)

**3. WOOD TABLE**  
Crank up the country charm with this four-wheeled piece in a distressed wood finish. **Coffee Table**, \$350; [overstock.com](http://overstock.com)

**4. MERCURY GLASS LAMP**  
Made from vintage perfume and essential oil bottles, this mercury glass table lamp adds sparkle and illumination. **Lamp**, \$145, and **shade**, \$74; [restorationhardware.com](http://restorationhardware.com)

**5. VELVET SOFA**  
A hand-tufted back and slender, pecan-stained legs make for a timeless, evergreen choice. **Sofa**, \$1,200; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com)

**6. WOODSY WALL COVERING**  
Try this removable peel-and-stick paper on an accent wall. Bonus: The colors are customizable. **Wallpaper**, \$30/roll; [nouwall.etsy.com](http://nouwall.etsy.com)

**7. TRUCK PILLOW**  
Made with 100% natural wool, this hand-hooked 20-inch-long find is the perfect pick(up). **Pillow**, \$85; [chandler4corners.com](http://chandler4corners.com)

**8. PLAID BLANKET**  
Cozy up for the holiday long haul with this woolen throw in classic red and green. **Blanket**, \$60; [crateandbarrel.com](http://crateandbarrel.com)



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# MAKE SPIRITS BRIGHT

A crop of clever new books dedicated to all things hand- and homemade is sure to inspire yes-I-created-that bragging rights this season.

WIRE CHRISTMAS TREE: ADAPTED FROM *THE NEW CHRISTMAS TREE* BY CARRIE BROWN (ARTISAN BOOKS); COPYRIGHT © 2015; PHOTOGRAPH BY PAIGE GREEN. GINGERBREAD HOUSE: EXCERPTED FROM *A YEAR OF GINGERBREAD HOUSES*; PHOTOGRAPH BY LARK CRAFTS. NECKLACE: EXCERPTED FROM *THE JEWELRY RECIPE BOOK* BY NANCY SORIANO (ARTISAN BOOKS); COPYRIGHT © 2015; PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES RANSOM.

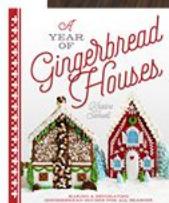


## PUT A TWIST ON A “TREE”

Carrie Brown's *The New Christmas Tree* (\$30; [amazon.com](#)) highlights a number of resourceful decorating ideas, but our favorite has to be this tapestry made with ornaments, velvet ribbon, jingle bells, and chicken wire.

## FASHION A THOUGHTFUL GIFT

In *The Jewelry Recipe Book* (\$25; [amazon.com](#)), author and former *Country Living* editor Nancy Soriano shares simple how-tos for creating pretty pieces from materials found at Michaels or Hobby Lobby. Unlike the elbow macaroni statement necklace you made in third grade, Mom will really wear this one.



## BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME

You haven't seen gingerbread digs like the ones in *A Year of Gingerbread Houses* (\$20; [amazon.com](#)) by Kristine Samuell. Brush up on those piping skills because this book's recipes, patterns, and pictures will inspire you to immediately start construction on a candy castle.





## TIE ONE ON

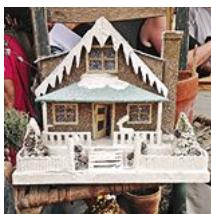
Take a plain pillow from ho-hum to ho-ho-ho by simply wrapping it up like a present. (Yes, it's *that* simple.) Add a sprig of greenery or a festive ornament for an extra bit of flourish.

We used 1.5-inch twill tape on the Lena pillow cover (\$29; birchlane.com).



## PUTZ AROUND TOWN

Cute cardboard putz houses from the 1950s are popping up everywhere. ("Putz" is German for "nativity display around a Christmas tree.") Share yours on Instagram: #clputzaround



Executive Editor Caroline McKenzie spied this cottage at the *CL* Fair in Columbus.



Managing Editor Amy Mitchell snapped this house at a church bazaar in Birmingham.



Deputy Art Director Jennica Johnstone found this pretty putz at a swap meet in Natchez.



Assistant Editor Lauren Welch completed her house hunt with this find in Nashville.



## INDULGE IN POST-SHOPPING PAMPERING

Farmacy, a new skin-care line available at Sephora, truly started from the ground up when founder Mark Veeder discovered a new strain of *Echinacea purpurea* at his weekend home in Upstate New York. He teamed with local farmers to create gentle masks, moisturizers, and balms loaded with natural anti-oxidants that work hard to revitalize holiday-weary skin. From \$17; sephora.com

# ✓ KEEP GIFTS UNDER STYLISH WRAPS

Make presents that much merrier with one of these wrapper's delights.



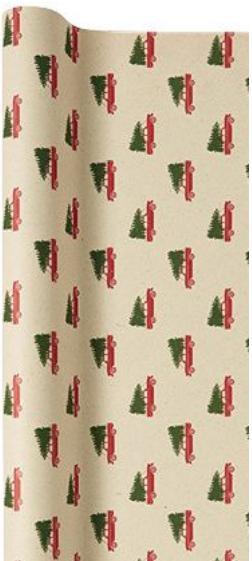
Spruce up plain boxes with this snow-covered pick.  
**Snowy Trees Wrap**, \$8; [papersource.com](http://papersource.com)



Accent the gift pile with a kick of Southern charm. **Merry Christmas, Y'all Wrap**, \$8; [belleandunion.com](http://belleandunion.com)



Go (ever)green and graphic with this recycled paper. **Geo Tree Wrap**, \$12; [www.carolinecreates.com](http://www.carolinecreates.com)



Load up on style with a retro wagon print.  
**Wagon Kraft Wrap**, \$8; [smockpaper.com](http://smockpaper.com)



Bundle up your bundle in striped ski caps.  
**Winter Hat by Sugar Paper for Target**, \$5; [target.com](http://target.com)

WRAPPING PAPER RANDY MAYOR

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COUNTRY COMEBACK

# ✓ DECORATE WITH FELT

Retailers are embracing the woolly material's homespun charm on everything from candy-colored wreaths to festive faux mistletoe. Here are some of our favorites from the flock.



## 1. BALL WREATH

This "Woolly Wonka"-esque 14-inch find adds whimsy to any holiday display. \$125; [cornerhouseshoppe.etsy.com](http://cornerhouseshoppe.etsy.com)

## 2. JUBILEE STOCKING

Even a lump of coal won't make these tiny 9-inch stockings any less cheerful. \$55/set of three; [modishstore.com](http://modishstore.com)

## 3. MISTLETOE WREATH

Felt white berries give this hand-cut 12-inch piece just the right finishing touch. \$85; [digsshowroom.com](http://digsshowroom.com)

## 4. BABUSHKA ORNAMENTS

Add some mirth with these little ladies. [codyfosterandco.com](http://codyfosterandco.com) for retailers

## 5. TREE ORNAMENT

This one may upstage your 8-foot Fraser fir. (Tip: Tie a name tag to the string and place on a dinner plate, and you've got a fun place card!) \$10; [elizabethsembellishments.com](http://elizabethsembellishments.com)

## 6. FOLK FLOWER ORNAMENT

Blustery blooms add a touch of folksy appeal. [codyfosterandco.com](http://codyfosterandco.com) for retailers

## 7. FESTIVE GARLAND

Trim the tree with a flurry of felt snowballs. \$20; [landofnod.com](http://landofnod.com)

## 8. STAR ORNAMENTS

Make a wish upon this tiny heavenly body. [codyfosterandco.com](http://codyfosterandco.com) for retailers

## 9. MISTLETOE BALL ORNAMENT

Steal a smooch under this nubby, no-wilt alternative to the real deal. \$15; [crateandbarrel.com](http://crateandbarrel.com)

## 10. CHRISTMAS TREE STOCKING

This midnight-blue find has a timeless, heirloom-worthy quality. \$98; [shopterrain.com](http://shopterrain.com)

## 11. SNOWFLAKE BALL ORNAMENTS

Sweet stitching and rich hues add flair to your tree. \$70/set of 12; [modishstore.com](http://modishstore.com)



MY KIND OF COUNTRY

GET TO KNOW...

## MONICA POTTER

The Ohio-raised actress fills us in on her Christmas traditions, sentiments on snow, and more. Check out her line of all-natural home-and-beauty products at [mrspotter.com](http://mrspotter.com).

### LATEST PROJECT

"Opening my Garrettsville, OH, flagship store has allowed me to return to the community that gave me so much."

**Frosted Pinecone Candle,**  
\$18; [mrspotter.com](http://mrspotter.com)

### GO-TO HOLIDAY MEAL

"Every Christmas morning, I bake homemade cinnamon rolls and a big sausage, egg, and cheese casserole."

**Casserole Dish,** \$20;  
[crateandbarrel.com](http://crateandbarrel.com)



### FAVORITE ESCAPE

"There's just something about lake fishing. It's a time of reflection for me." **Wicker Creel,** \$69; [llbean.com](http://llbean.com)

### TACKY HOLIDAY SWEATERS: YAY OR NAY?

"Yay, yay, yay! You can't take yourself too seriously!"

**DIY Sweater Kit,** \$30;  
[michaels.com](http://michaels.com)



### FAMILY TRADITION

"We enjoy a big Christmas Eve feast followed by a rousing game night!" **Backgammon Set,** \$198; [serenaandlily.com](http://serenaandlily.com)

### WARMEST MEMORY

"Getting bundled up for snow days. I miss the white stuff when I'm in Los Angeles."



### THRIFT STORE FIND

"I love the sweet detailing of vintage lace doilies." **Bamboo Doily Clock,** \$36; [uncommon.etsy.com](http://uncommon.etsy.com)

### WINTER ESSENTIAL

"I love a classic red manicure during the holidays. My go-to hue is Big Apple Red by O.P.I. Polish, \$10; [ulta.com](http://ulta.com)

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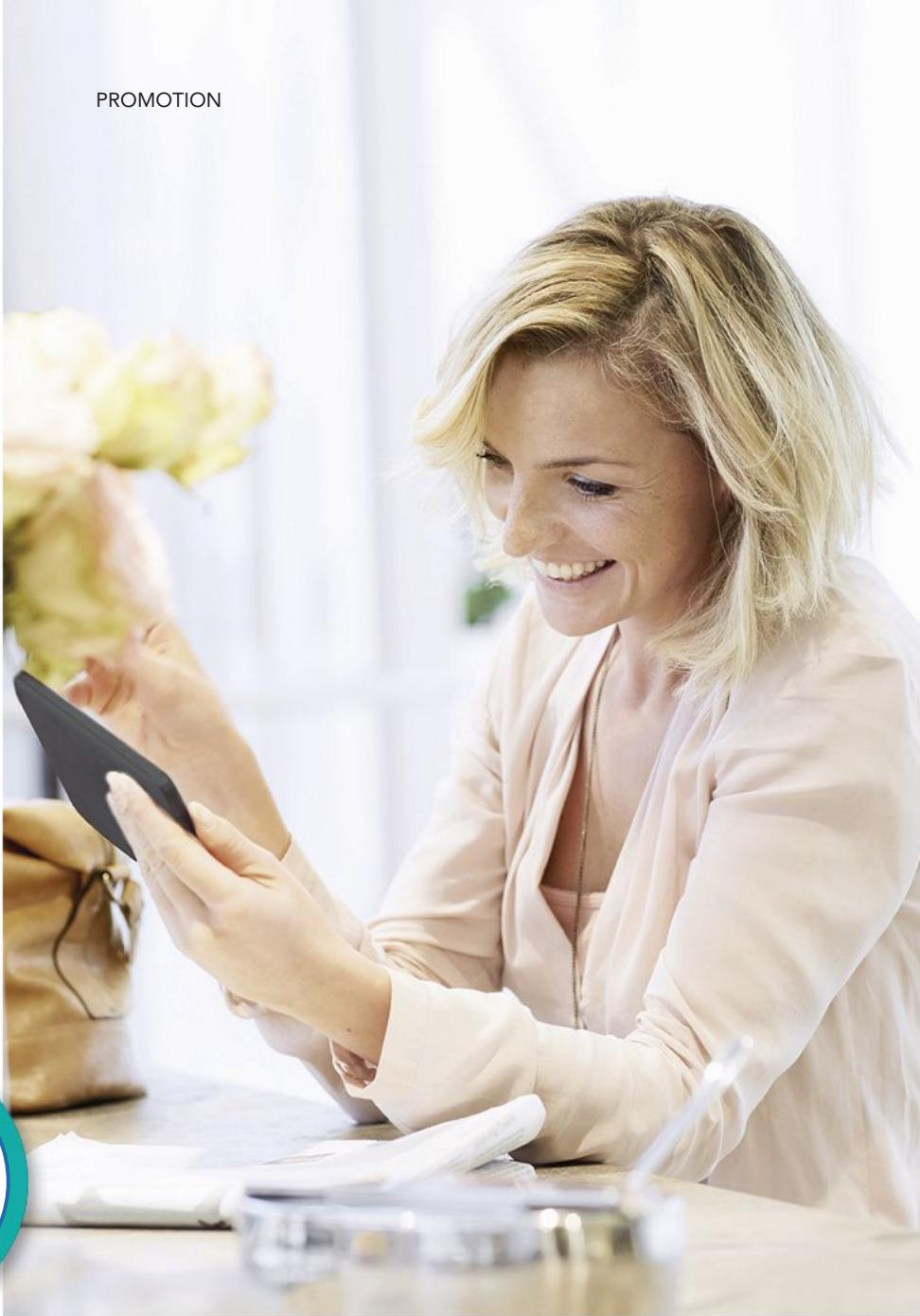
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# thrill of the hunt

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, AND OTHER ONE-OF-A-KIND FINDS

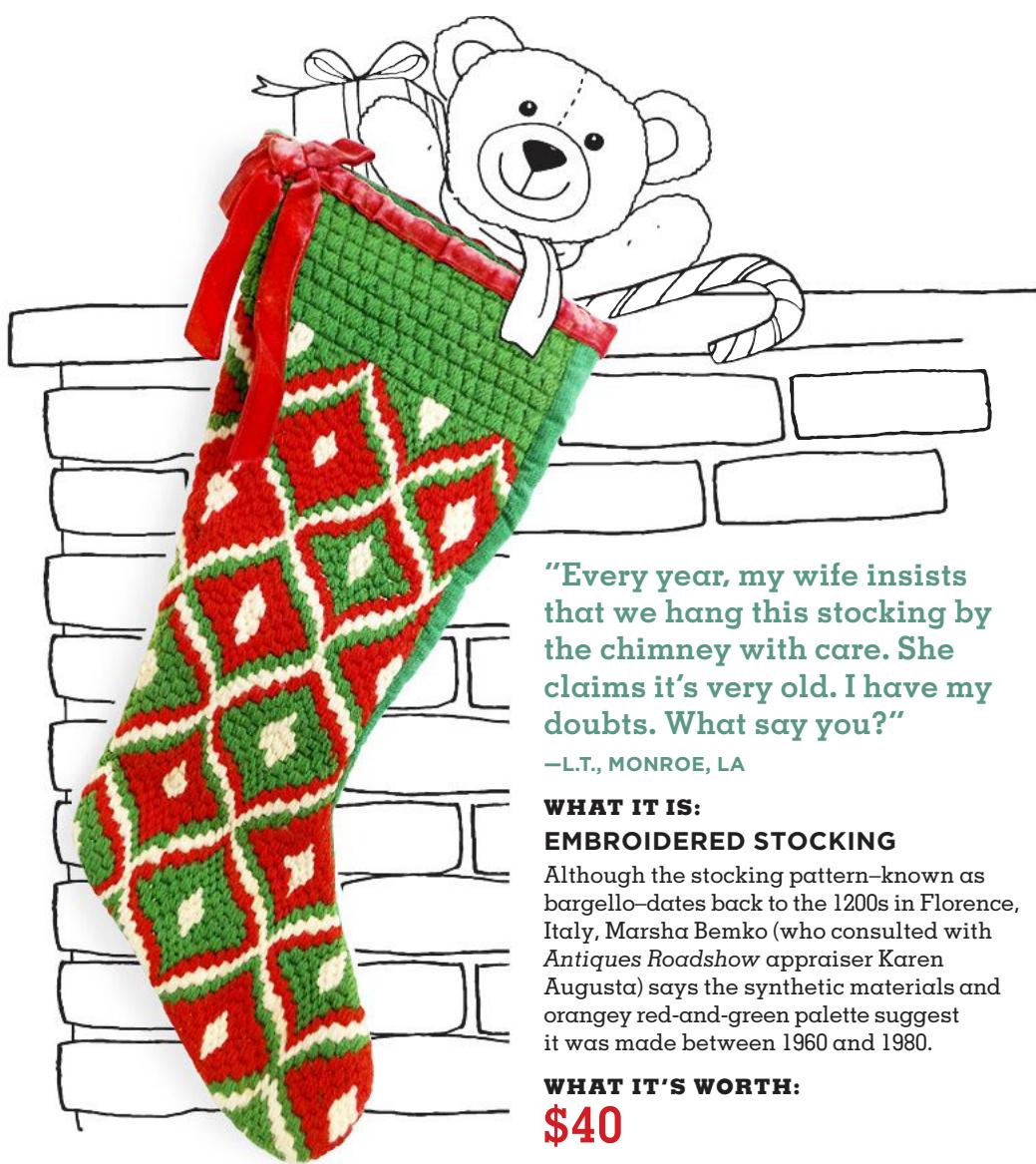


REPORTED BY LAURA KOSTELNY.



**WHAT IT IS:**  
**1950s CHADWICK POSTAL SCALE**  
While inspiration is priceless, your 4-inch Starburst sea green scale isn't, according to Lauren Laughry of Dallas Auction Gallery. Although it's a cool find, she says that it doesn't have significant monetary value at the moment for a couple of reasons: There's no real practical use that ups the worth, and there isn't really a solid collecting community for postal scales. But perhaps as handwritten notes become a thing of the past, tools of the mail trade could become more coveted.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH:**  
**\$15**



**"Every year, my wife insists that we hang this stocking by the chimney with care. She claims it's very old. I have my doubts. What say you?"**

—L.T., MONROE, LA

**WHAT IT IS:**  
**EMBROIDERED STOCKING**

Although the stocking pattern-known as bargello-dates back to the 1200s in Florence, Italy, Marsha Bemko (who consulted with *Antiques Roadshow* appraiser Karen Augusta) says the synthetic materials and orangey red-and-green palette suggest it was made between 1960 and 1980.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH:**  
**\$40**

### GUESS THE WORTH

Anyone who has seen *It's a Wonderful Life* knows that every time a bell rings an angel gets his wings. But guess how much an original poster from the 1946 film earned?

- a) \$5,550 b) \$15,535 c) \$44,000

»» SEE PAGE 25 TO SEE IF YOU GUESSED CORRECTLY! →

**"I received this 14-karat-gold charm when I was in junior high in the 1980s. Do people still wear things like this today?" —M.K., ENID, OK**

**WHAT IT IS:**  
**VINTAGE DREIDEL CHARM**

Yes, according to Dallas Auction Gallery's Lauren Laughry, who says that there's been a surge in popularity of charm necklaces and bracelets—especially gold ones—that definitely makes this worth adding to your jewelry rotation.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH:**  
**\$100**



PROMOTION

**HGTV**  
magazine

**makeovers!**  
Big and small for every budget

**36 Cool kitchen updates**

**a summer of DIY**

- Colorful paint projects
- Fast furniture rescues
- Easy flower ideas

Shop like a pro at the flea market  
page 174

David Bromstad

Love to look at open houses? Zoom to page 98

BEST-EVER BACKYARD  
123 fun finds

So simple! Garden blooms in pitchers

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## GUESS THE WORTH

Talk about monumental! A Statue of Liberty-themed menorah by artist Manfred Anson recently sold for:

- a) \$540 b) \$2,215 c) \$8,125

»» SEE PAGE 25 TO SEE IF YOU GUESSED CORRECTLY! →

"My sister and I are fighting over these Christmas ornaments. In the spirit of the holiday, should we just split the set?"

—S.K., EUFAULA, AL



### WHAT IT IS: 1940s SHINY BRITE ORNAMENTS

Because of the paper hangers, your Shiny Brite ornaments date back to World War II, according to Jim Griffith of eBay. They were manufactured by the Corning Glass Company and sold in major department stores. Your box originally contained only blue ornaments, so the reds were added later (a single-color box would be worth more). So not only can you each take half, Jim says that they will go up in value because they're so fragile.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:  
**\$30**

"I found these lights filled with liquid in the attic. To my surprise, they still work. What are they?"

—E.B., GALLUP, NM



### WHAT IT IS: BUBBLE LIGHTS

In 1946, Carol Otis developed these incandescent lightbulbs that heat up liquid-filled vials to create a bubble effect, according to Dallas Auction Gallery's Lauren Laughry. An original box with all nine lights could bring a little monetary joy to your world.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:  
**\$115**

"My grandpa tells me these tins were used for peanut butter; my grandma says they stored lard. Who's right?"

—L.K., DES PLAINES, IL

### WHAT IT IS: L. LARSON CO. TIN

They both are! "Tins of this size did contain peanut butter," says Marsha Dixey of Heritage Auctions. "But holiday tins advertising a store likely held lard since it was cheaper to give away." The good condition of the lithograph makes yours fairly valuable.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:  
**\$225**



"I want to fill these flea-market finds with greenery and hang them on my front door. Should I find an indoor use for them instead?"

—R.R., HUNTSVILLE, TX

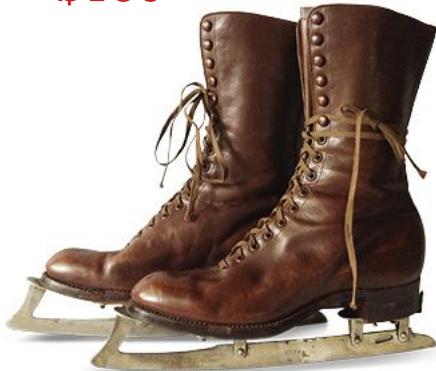
**WHAT IT IS:**

**WOMEN'S HIGH-TOP SKATES**

Maybe so, if you want them to stay in good shape. Jim Griffith of eBay says that vintage skates sell from \$20 to \$150, but yours are in such great condition, the value will be on the higher side.

**WHAT IT'S WORTH:**

**\$150**



**MEET OUR COLLECTING PANEL**

MARSHA BEMKO  
ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

MARSHA DIXEY  
HERITAGE AUCTIONS

HELALINE FENDELMAN  
APPRAIERS ASSOCIATION  
OF AMERICA

JIM GRIFFITH  
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LAUREN LAUGHRY  
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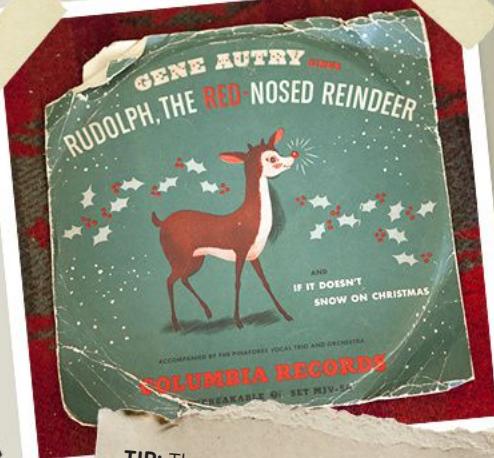
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Carter gets into the holiday spirit with the requisite festive sweater.

#### RUDOLPH RECORD

As a child I was dedicated to scanning the skies for Santa's reindeer led by the valiant Rudolph. How happy I was when I found this old 78 of the song by the legendary singing cowboy, Gene Autry.



**TIP:** The paper sleeves of old vinyls make for nostalgic Christmas decor. For frames that fit album covers, visit [framemyrecord.com](http://framemyrecord.com).

THE COLLECTING LIFE  
- By -  
Mary Randolph Carter

## JOY TO THE JUNK!

It seems as soon as Thanksgiving dinner is cleared away I find myself humming Christmas carols and pulling out all my favorite collections of holiday kitsch. Yes, I go a bit overboard, but when it comes to the holidays, I just can't help myself. Whether you live in a city apartment or a country cabin, the ritual of dressing up your home adds that warmth, charm, and fun that makes this time of year a true celebration.

Happy junking to all!

**TIP:** Custom ornaments make thoughtful one-of-a-kind gifts. To create your own, visit [timbergreenwoods.com](http://timbergreenwoods.com). Prices start at \$25.



#### RED TRUCK ORNAMENT

Our neighbors in the country, Bob and Elsie, created a wooden ornament version of my beloved red junking truck. Our dear friends are gone now, but their memory lives on in our favorite tiny tree trimming.

#### SANTAS GALORE

The older I get, the more I believe in Saint Nick's jolly spirit! Which is why, I suppose, I've collected hundreds of the bearded figures. A few of my favorites are shown here: a gilded cardboard bust, a plate for leaving him cookies, and a plastic bank reminding me of the "real" Santas ringing their bells on street corners this time of year.



#### LIGHT-UP DISPLAY

I discovered this circa 1950s plastic Santa during a particularly spirited Etsy search. He stands a little more than a foot tall and came with an equally charming cardboard box announcing his "electrified" personality.



### LAWN CAROLERS

For years these charming choir boys and their winged friend, all with little mouths frozen in song, lit up the holiday windows at the junk emporium I owned with my sister Nell in our hometown of White Stone, Virginia.

After it closed, they followed me north and now take residence in front of my house every December.



**TIP:** You can find the best deals on holiday decor in the summer, so set a calendar reminder to scour Etsy and eBay around June or July.

### SNOWY BARN PILLOW

This wintry needlepoint is a dead-ringer for our barn at Elm Glen Farm. I snatched it up for \$10 at a flea market and have been proudly claiming it as my own ever since.



*"When the holidays arrive, every nook and cranny of our country home is lined with little holiday vignettes."*



### GLITTERING ARRAY

When the holidays arrive, every nook and cranny of our country home is lined with cheery vignettes like this tiny chipped Santa in a forest of snow-flecked trees and a pair of celluloid reindeers on the prowl for some savory branches.



### BOTTLE BRUSH TREES

These retro trees in all (mostly faded) shades are my number one holiday collectible. There's not a mantel or windowsill that escapes their presence. Leftovers look pretty piled up in a scenic holiday paper bowl.

# COUNTRY LISTINGS

Whether it's the real deal (like the stately home featured in *Miracle on 34th Street*, below) or simply a house that conjures up the same holiday movie magic as the original (see right), these residences inspire serious merrymaking.



Miracle on 34th Street

## MOVIE NIGHT MUST-HAVES

These fun finds will set a cozy scene, even if your living room isn't exactly camera-ready.



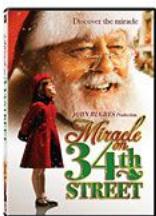
**Fringed Throw,**  
\$120; [schoolhouseelectric.com](http://schoolhouseelectric.com)



**Stoneware Bowl**  
with Kernel Sifter, \$75;  
[uncommongoods.com](http://uncommongoods.com)



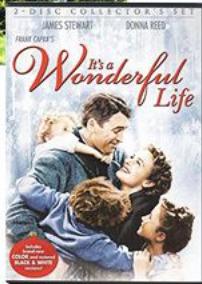
**Popcorn Seasoning,**  
\$7 each;  
[crateandbarrel.com](http://crateandbarrel.com)



**Miracle on**  
**34th Street**, \$10;  
[walmart.com/vudu](http://walmart.com/vudu)

## MORE CINEMATIC FINDS

Celebrity look-alike alert: These handsome homes could almost pass for their movie star counterparts.



### ▲ IF YOU LOVE HOME ALONE

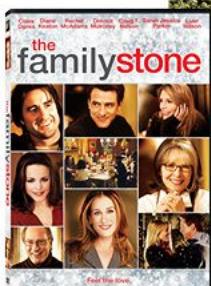
BRECKENRIDGE, TX \$234,900

Enjoy a little me time in this Georgian Revival, which boasts Palladian windows and a grand entryway. Agent: Katrina Adams; adamsres.com

### IF YOU LOVE A CHRISTMAS STORY ▶

ELGIN, IL \$139,000

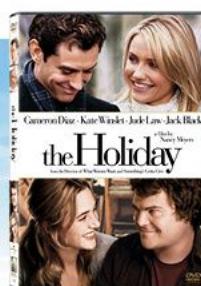
This early-20th-century home retains its original front porch and interior woodwork: The only thing missing is a leg lamp in the front window. Agent: Al Kantner; century21.com



### ◀ IF YOU LOVE THE FAMILY STONE

ENFIELD, CT \$299,900

The original double front doors of this Italianate-style home open to reveal expansive rooms ready-made for large family gatherings. Agent: Kathleen Sarno; century21.com



International listing! This charming escape is in England.

### ◀ IF YOU LOVE THE HOLIDAY

NORTH YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND £550,000 (ROUGHLY \$835,000)

Swap your current digs for this romantic cottage in a quaint English village. Agent: Daryll Digpal; beadnallcopley.co.uk

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# home sweet home

INSPIRING IDEAS FOR IN AND AROUND THE HOUSE



## "SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN"

Perfect for a kids' room, this retro tree is as jolly as Kris Kringle himself, thanks to a vintage tree stand and old-school ornaments.

**Reindeer Ornaments**, \$11 each, and **Bubble Light Santa**, \$33; both from [avintageholiday.com](http://avintageholiday.com)

## Let Your Christmas Tree Sing a New Tune!

We looked to treasured holiday carols to create five festive displays.



# "WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS"

## TURN THE SONG INTO A FESTIVE SCENE

Overflowing with good tidings, this "friends and family" tree features an assortment of holiday greeting cards (clipped to jute rope with mini clothespins) and a spirited mix of jewel-toned ornaments from the '50s and '60s.



**Glitter Ornaments,**  
\$10/set of four; [nova68.com](http://nova68.com)



**Golden Clothespins,**  
\$2/set of three; [scboutique.123.etsy.com](http://scboutique.123.etsy.com)



**Betsy Patchwork Quilt,**  
\$150 for 40" x 40"; [heybabycraftco.com](http://heybabycraftco.com)

**Vintage-inspired  
Christmas Card Set,**  
\$23/24 cards; [papersource.com](http://papersource.com)





# "OVER THE RIVER & THROUGH THE WOODS"



**White Birch Wrapping Paper** by StoneAmazon, \$15/roll; [spoonflower.com](http://spoonflower.com)

**Deer Ornament,**  
\$14; [countryporch.com](http://countryporch.com)



**Snow Shoes,**  
from \$153; [fabersnowshoes.com](http://fabersnowshoes.com)



## TURN THE SONG INTO A **WOODSY** SCENE

Wintery woodland frills (owl and deer ornaments, a forest of flocked bottle-brush trees in lieu of a skirt) evoke the snow-laden trek to grandmother's house, while flickering clip-on, battery-operated candles are reminiscent of the tapers in her windows. Antique snow shoes and skis reinforce the frosty feel.



**Cabin Ornaments,**  
[codyfosterandco.com](http://codyfosterandco.com) for stores



**Beatrice Throw,**  
\$149; [pendleton-usa.com](http://pendleton-usa.com)

# "JINGLE BELLS"

**TURN THE SONG  
INTO A  
DASHING  
SCENE**

Adorned with jingle bells, red jute webbing runs down the length of the tree. Burlap poinsettias add a decorative touch, and a seven-point star hand-crafted from vintage sheet music hits an especially high note. Antique sleds are a practically sized sub-in for a one-horse open sleigh. Tip: Assign each family member a sled, and pile on gifts accordingly.



**Nordic Star  
Wool Rug**, from  
\$91; [dashandalbert.com](http://dashandalbert.com)



**Bell Bottle  
Opener**  
(Tie it on  
the tree!),  
\$16; [anthropologie.com](http://anthropologie.com)



**Sleigh Ornament**,  
\$10; [outsideinsidegifts.com](http://outsideinsidegifts.com)



**Sheet Music  
Wrapping Paper**,  
\$5/sheet;  
[papersource.com](http://papersource.com)

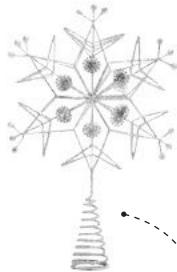


## "LET IT SNOW"



### TURN THE SONG INTO A **SNOWY SCENE**

Fuzzy felt mittens lend a hand to the cold-weather theme, as do snowmen, snowflakes, and ice skates, all in a crisp blue-and-white palette. On the stairs, another sprinkling of snowflakes and a pair of vintage ice skates spruce up a simple, rambling garland. Below the tree, a glittering Christmas village atop faux sheepskin rugs makes for a cool alternative to the standard gift display.



**Snowflake Tree Topper, \$30;**  
*bloomingdales.com*



**Shearling Pillow,**  
\$59; *urbanoutfitters.com*

**Winter Village,**  
\$70/three-piece set; *avintageholiday.com*



**Skate Wrapping Paper, \$21/roll;**  
*zazzle.com*



# A Merry and Bright Kitchen Makeover

In the third chapter of our “Makeover Takeover” series, we enlisted the help of our 2.5 million *Country Living* Facebook fans to help transform a **KITCHEN** and **LAUNDRY ROOM**.



## WHAT THE KITCHEN NEEDED A SMARTER LAYOUT

Homeowners Gina and Brian Bishop of Hudson, Ohio, love to cook, but a winding, inefficient kitchen with a super-small sink and low countertops made things difficult. Even worse, an adjacent bathroom was in plain view while eating.

**LIGHT!** A dark (and impractical) wallpapered backsplash, butcher block countertops, and wide-plank maple walls cast a dreary shadow on the room.

**BETTER STORAGE** The awkward layout didn't allow for a pantry—something Gina always wanted. And the old wood drawers often splintered when opened, making it difficult to get her hands on cooking tools.

**ADDITIONAL SEATING** Though the home boasts a sizable formal dining room, the Bishops prefer to gather for meals in the kitchen's eat-in nook. While the small area worked for the family of four, they longed for space to accommodate guests in a casual setting.

Gina chose to use reclaimed wood from an old door as a kitchen island accent.



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**COUNTERTOP:** Duomo Quartz; wilsonart.com. **PAINT:** White Duck, from the Liveable Luxe Color Collection from HGTV HOME™ by Sherwin-Williams. Now available at Lowe's; painton.com. **APPLIANCES:** Microwave, stove, and refrigerator in Buttercup Yellow; bigchill.com.



## WHAT WE DID

### CHANGED THE LAYOUT

CL editors Jami Supsic and Page Mullins collaborated with Austin-based architect Cindy Black, who changed the floor plan to create a practical-yet-pretty kitchen complete with a central island ideal for entertaining.

**CREATED LIGHT** Cindy swapped out wood countertops for a reader-approved (and easy-to-clean!) quartz from Wilsonart. To offset the preserved wood walls, they painted the ceiling and trim a crisp white (White Duck), chosen by CL readers from the Liveable Luxe Color Collection from HGTV HOME™ by Sherwin-Williams. They

also added a window and moved the sink (with a new Waterhill faucet by Moen) to take advantage of the light.

### EXPANDED STORAGE

Accented with oil-rubbed hardware, fresh white cabinets from Schuler replaced the old ones and were also installed around the refrigerator and under the new banquette (see left) for tons of storage.

### ADDED SEATING

An L-shaped banquette creates a spot for six so there's plenty of room for visitors. Jami and Page accented Cindy's design with a round table from Cost Plus World Market, a stainless steel pendant light, and cheerful lemony accents. Two industrial barstools, also from Cost Plus World Market, create another place to perch at the new island.



**BEFORE**

The old setup of the room made it difficult to tackle dirty clothes.

## WHAT THE LAUNDRY ROOM NEEDED

**MORE SPACE!** The Bishops' original laundry room was tiny and impractical. Because it didn't have any storage, the room remained in a constant state of disarray and chaos.

## WHAT WE DID PERFORMED A ROOM SWAP

"I have one big 'no-no' with kitchen design, which is that you should never, ever see a toilet from

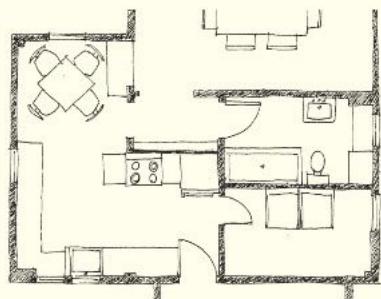
**White Duck**  
HGTV HOME™ by  
Sherwin-Williams

the cooking space," says Cindy. To eliminate the unappealing view, Cindy traded spaces—the bathroom adjacent to the kitchen became the laundry room and vice versa. Jami and Page placed a stackable washer and dryer in cabinetry where the bathtub once stood, and topped a folding station with a reader pick, Wilsonart's Truss Maple countertop. Gotham hexagonal floor tile from The Home Depot adds vintage flair to the workspace.



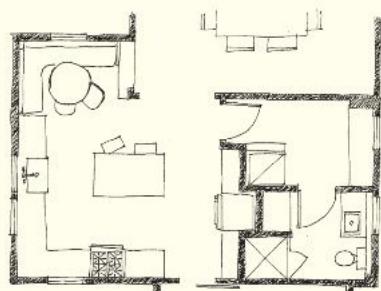
## THE NEW FOOTPRINT

Austin-based architect **Cindy Black** ([hellokitchen.com](http://hellokitchen.com)) reworked the space to take it from faulty to flawless.



### BEFORE

"The kitchen's winding shape made it really difficult for Gina to cook and transfer food from stove to counter. And without a central island, it was almost impossible to interact with guests while cooking," Cindy says.



### AFTER

"I wanted to open up the space while maintaining the relative scale of the room as it might have been in a house of this era, so the overall kitchen footprint is a modest 14.5 feet by about 13 feet—plus the breakfast nook."

PROMOTION

# If your walls could talk, they'd say subscribe.

The cover of HGTV magazine features a large blue house-shaped logo at the top left. To its right, a banner reads "More style! Less spending!". The main headline is "Easiest makeovers ever!" with the subtitle "New looks with stuff you have". Below this are several feature headlines: "POPS OF COLOR 82 bright ideas for every room", "Love your kitchen 9 little, low-cost changes", and "BYE-BYE MESSY CLOSETS!". A small circular portrait of host Megyn Kelly is on the left, with the caption "Meg Rescues America's Most Embarrassing Living Room!". The central image shows a white shelving unit with yellow shelves, filled with books, vases, and plants, with a blue patterned ottoman in front. The overall theme is bright and organized.

GET TONS OF IDEAS FOR EVERY ROOM IN YOUR HOUSE.  
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# ASK A COUNTRY VET

Animal expert **DR. TRICIA EARLEY** answers your questions about annoyed cats, chilly dogs, and how to make sure the deer stay near. Plus: Enter to win a \$500 prize! (See page 48)



**Q** Recently, my 9-year-old cat, Trudy, started howling through the night. It seems like turning off the lights triggers the behavior. There's nothing different about our home or routine. What can I do?  
-K.W., JULIAN, CA

**A** Meowing, howling, and hissing are a means of communication from our feline friends, but interpreting the racket can be a challenge. Take Trudy to a veterinarian to rule out medical issues. If she gets a clean bill of health, it may be that she's asking for extra love. Try spending a few more minutes with her before bed. If all else fails, consider adopting another cat so that Trudy is lonely no more.



**HAVE A PET QUESTION?**  
Drop Dr. Earley a line at [countrystvet@countryliving.com](mailto:countrystvet@countryliving.com)



**Q** My pug, Hugo, acts like he's freezing when I take him out for walks. Does he need a coat or sweater in the winter, or is he just being dramatic?  
-L.P., CROWN POINT, IN

**A** While it's true that some dogs can be drama queens, adverse reactions to temperature, fear, and pain are quite real. Like humans, some dogs tolerate cold weather better than others. Dogs with short fur and less body fat tend to chill easily; those with thick coats thrive in frigid temps. So my friend's chiweenie, Rex, happily sports a turtleneck when the temperature drops below 70 degrees, while thick-coated Gigi, a Welsh corgi, loves 30-degree days. Next time it's cold, dress Hugo in a jacket (see page 59), and he will look and feel great.



Irresistible taste starts with the first ingredient.

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Why feed your cat anything else?



\*SHEBA® Entrees are made with real beef, poultry or seafood as the first ingredient. ©/™ Trademarks © Mars, Incorporated 2015.



**Q** I love watching the deer graze in my yard during the summer. What can I do to keep them coming back year-round?  
-R.W., PHILIPSTOWN, NY

**A** What a relaxing way to spend a morning, watching deer graze from the comfort of your porch! Planting a small plot of forage is the ideal way (and in some states, the only legal way) to feed wild deer, as foraging for food is the healthiest and most natural way for deer to eat. Alfalfa, clover, and soybean are all easy to grow and are favorites of deer. If planting is not an option and feeding deer is permitted in your area, put out horse feed or deer pellets. Avoid the common mistake of scattering shelled corn—it not only lacks nutrition, but it's also difficult for deer to digest.



**WRITE  
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\$500 GIFT CARD!)

**HOW TO ENTER:**  
Submit a clever caption for the photo shown at left at [countryliving.com/petcaption](http://countryliving.com/petcaption) between November 10 and December 29, 2015.

**WHAT YOU'LL WIN:**  
The writer of our favorite caption will receive a \$500 gift card and four tubes of Petsmile pet toothpaste and will have his or her words printed in an upcoming issue.  
\*Turn to page 103 for rules.



**SEPTEMBER  
WINNER**

"What can I say, I'm a chick magnet."  
-ROSA LONGER  
SACRAMENTO, CA



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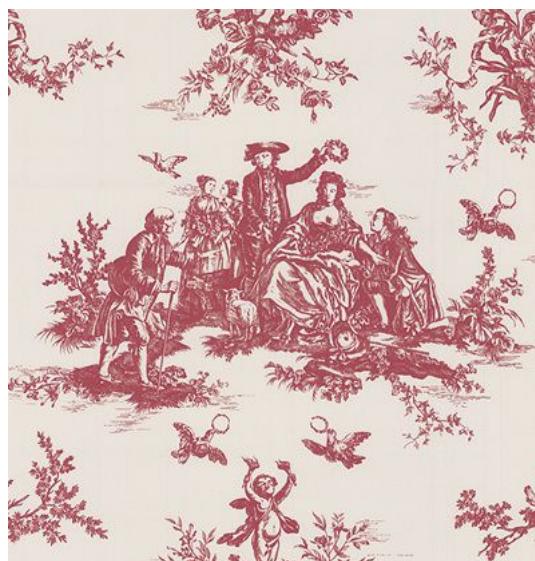
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THE

CountryLiving

# FIELD GUIDE

To

# HOLIDAY

# GIFT-GIVING

Hunting season is upon us! Before you bravely venture into the shopping wild, let us point you in the right direction. Whether you're searching for personalized presents, novel gifts, or just the right stocking stuffer, we've scouted the most stylish, thoughtful, and one-of-a-kind finds. Consider this your gift-giving compass!

WRITTEN BY JEANNE LYONS DAVIS | PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN WOODCOCK  
ILLUSTRATIONS BY SUNNY ECKERLE



LOOK FOR THIS BOW-AND-ARROW ICON THROUGHOUT THIS STORY FOR A CHANCE TO WIN PRIZES  
DECEMBER 1-12 FROM OUR 12 DAYS OF GIVEAWAYS. VISIT [COUNTRYLIVING.COM/12DAYS](http://COUNTRYLIVING.COM/12DAYS) FOR MORE INFO.



# WOMEN

For moms, aunts, sisters, and friends, whether their natural habitat is in the garden, kitchen, craft room...or on the sofa, under a blanket, watching *House Hunters*. (Hey, no judgments.)



Available in five colors, this fringed throw feels so luxurious that we had to triple-check the price. \$59, plus \$9 for monogram; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com)



COUNTRYLIVING.COM/12DAYS



Give this trio of Tennessee-made **goat's milk soaps** to mom or split up the set (in rosemary mint, orange blossom, and lavender) among your herd. \$36 for three; [littleseedfarm.com](http://littleseedfarm.com)



Made in Brooklyn, this **Christmas sweater cutting block** comes in beech, walnut, or maple and pays homage to not-so-tacky seasonal attire. (The reverse side is plain for less festive chopping.) \$48; [aheirloom.etsy.com](http://aheirloom.etsy.com)



#### FIELD NOTES

### HOW TO SEND A MORE FESTIVE GIFT

Styrofoam packing peanuts don't exactly up the merry quotient of that care package. Instead, use peppermint candies as a bright way to cushion your precious cargo. Or forgo packaging altogether and simply slap postage and a mailing label onto (almost) any item that is less than 13 ounces. (Think toy balls, tubes of candy sprinkles, plastic water bottles, and so on.) It's known as "happy mail."



COUNTRYLIVING.COM/12DAYS



These 8-inch-tall **cross-body pouches** come in eight fun colors and keep hands free for more important pursuits. \$48; [buluchu.com](http://buluchu.com)



Inspired by the North Carolina sky, this chip-resistant **porcelain flower pot** is right on trend thanks to its pretty marbleized pattern. From \$36; [haand.us](http://haand.us)



Who says guys should get the grilling gear? This lightweight **BBQ stove**, available in four stylish colors, is pretty darn (barbe)cute. \$90; [fab.com](http://fab.com)



This ready-to-hang **embroidered art hoop** adds country charm to a gallery wall. \$18; [littelow.com](http://littelow.com)



Give the family cook a sweet **floral recipe box** complete with 24 cards. (Because storing Grandma's red velvet recipe in a digital file just feels wrong.) \$34; [rifleepaperco.com](http://rifleepaperco.com)



Dripping with the charm of a Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale, these **whimsical wax candles** shine in 10 bright colors. \$34 each; [ameico.com](http://ameico.com)



Warning: This 8-inch version of our monthly Simple Country Pleasures **paint-by-number kit** (page 104) could lead to a full-on obsession. \$25; [easy123art.com](http://easy123art.com)



This handmade **statement necklace** turns run-of-the-mill crochet yarn into a conversation-starting fashion accessory. \$35; [estudioshop.etsy.com](http://estudioshop.etsy.com)

Take your pick of embroidered fruits and veggies (beet, tomato, carrot, and parsnip) to grace this linen-and-French ticking stripe **kitchen apron**. \$72; [bluehillmarket.com](http://bluehillmarket.com)





# MEN

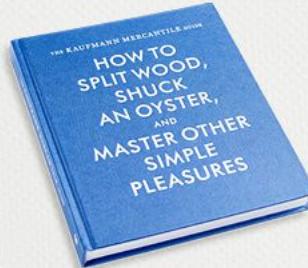
Sure, dear old Dad says he doesn't want anything, but wait until he gets his hands on one of these ruggedly handsome, how'd-he-ever-live-without-it items.



These camping-themed terra-cotta coffee mugs come packaged in equally campy gift boxes. \$22 each; [cabin9design.com](http://cabin9design.com)

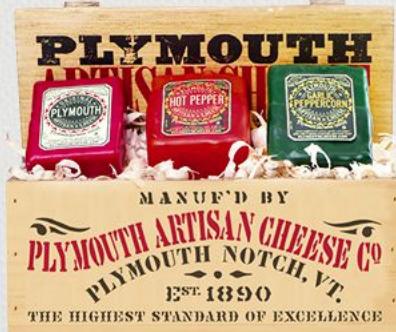


What's a family get-together without a little competition? This six-piece set of 3 1/2-inch **yard dice** will get the good times rolling. \$55; [yarddice.com](http://yarddice.com)



This comprehensive **how-to book** from retailer Kaufmann Mercantile covers a manly miscellany, from the extreme (how to ford a river) to the everyday (how to brew the perfect cup of joe). \$14; [modcloth.com](http://modcloth.com)

Attention, craft draft enthusiasts: The **beer squealer** is the new (smaller) growler and holds up to 32 ounces of your favorite brew. \$40; [shinevessels.com](http://shinevessels.com)



Delivered in a rustic wooden crate, these **artisanal cheeses** are crafted in Vermont by the country's oldest cheesemaker. \$50; [plymouthartisancheese.com](http://plymouthartisancheese.com)



Sewn from unused military blankets and lined with seersucker, this dapper **dopp kit** is ideal for stashing his overnight artillery. \$68; [brooklynmakers.com](http://brooklynmakers.com)



Yes, it's a **necktie**. But this silk jacquard ode to beer pong is a far-from-stuffy find for the Solo cup set. \$85; [southerntide.com](http://southerntide.com)



Raise a glass to regional pride with these witty Baltic **birch coasters**. Choose from West, East, North, and Gulf Coasters. \$32/set of 4; [shop.walkerart.org](http://shop.walkerart.org)



## FIELD NOTES

### HOW TO SCORE THE PERFECT VINTAGE GIFT

We all know Dad is more sentimental than he cares to admit, so surprise him with a trip down memory lane. Abe Books ([abebooks.com](http://abebooks.com)) offers rare titles, while Collectable Ivy ([collectableivy.com](http://collectableivy.com)) features college sports paraphernalia from the likes of Notre Dame, Michigan, and, yes, Ivy League schools. And don't miss Angling Artifacts ([anglingartifacts.com](http://anglingartifacts.com)) for fishing gear from yesteryear.



This clever **cardboard iPad stand** will transform a high-tech device into an old-school tube TV. \$30; [uncommongoods.com](http://uncommongoods.com)



A graphic green-and-white **dartboard** doubles as striking wall art. \$60 for board and five darts; Top Hat NYC, 212-677-4240





# KIDS

These squeal-inducing delights are sure to please tots, tykes, and the young at heart, and they'll maybe, just maybe, convince tweens to look up from their phones. (Behold, a Christmas miracle!)



Give kids these cozy critter "face blankets" and give parents the unparalleled joy of a silent night. \$27 each; [oooomstore.com](http://oooomstore.com)

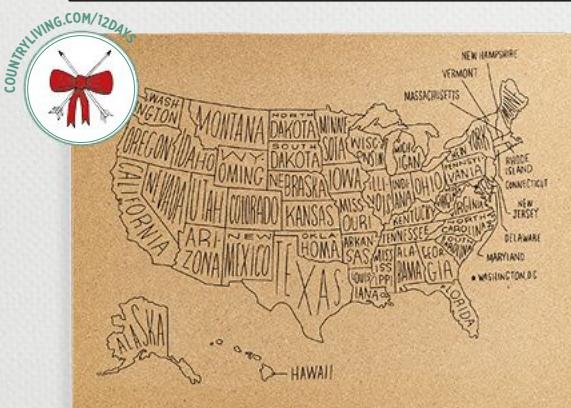




Made of cardboard, beechwood, and felt, this **ride-on dog** is simultaneously retro and modern. \$110; [neimanmarcus.com](http://neimanmarcus.com)



Zesty **fruitcases** made of recycled paper and water-based paint make for playful purses or colorful toy storage. \$48/set of 3; [momastore.org](http://momastore.org)



Help the little adventurer pin-point past and future travels on this mountable **cork board map**. \$50; [cardsforawesompeopple.com](http://cardsforawesompeopple.com)



Because isn't it about time we see a **superhero toy** with a top knot? \$42; [brooklynmakers.com](http://brooklynmakers.com)

Featuring soft soles, these cute clawed **leather moccasins** are perfect for the budding outdoorsman. \$40; [littlehouseintheorchard.com](http://littlehouseintheorchard.com)



A 5' x 2.5' **country cabin** getaway of their very own. (Felt flapjacks encouraged.) \$199; [landofnod.com](http://landofnod.com)



Pass on your state pride with a hand-carved **wooden baby rattle**. (Customize the disks to the colors of your alma mater—it's never too early to recruit.) \$18; [bannertoys.com](http://bannertoys.com)



This **mason jar speaker and amplifier** turns any smartphone into a sound system and gives new meaning to making "jam." \$65; [uncommongoods.com](http://uncommongoods.com)



School tweens on the good old days of "shake and wait" with this sleek **wireless printer** that spits out selfies in 60 seconds. \$130; [polaroid.com](http://polaroid.com)



Even adults will covet these pom-pom-adorned **wrist warmers**. \$35; [georgiablue.etsy.com](http://georgiablue.etsy.com)



A stuffed-to-the-gills **fish trophy** like Dad's mounted bass. \$60; [kelseydavisdesign.etsy.com](http://kelseydavisdesign.etsy.com)

## FIELD NOTES

### HOW TO ADD A LITTLE SANTA MAGIC

**\*\*Spoiler alert!\*\***

Make Christmas morning more memorable with snowprints left by Santa. Simply trace a pair of men's boots or dress shoes on cardboard. Cut out the template and place it by the fireplace or front door and sprinkle powdered sugar around the edges. Remove cardboard, being careful to keep outline of shoe intact. Ta-da! Hard (and fast!) proof that Santa Claus has been to town.



# PETS

Even the most domesticated sidekicks, furry or feathered, will go wild for these off-the-beaten-path picks, from dog bandanas to chicken bracelets. (Yes, you read that right.)

For the pooch with more refined taste: hefty, dishwasher-safe stoneware dog bowls, \$60 for the set; [magenta-inc.com](http://magenta-inc.com)





Birds will flock to this hardy home **birch birdhouse** like a partridge to a pear tree. \$28; [shopterrain.com](http://shopterrain.com)



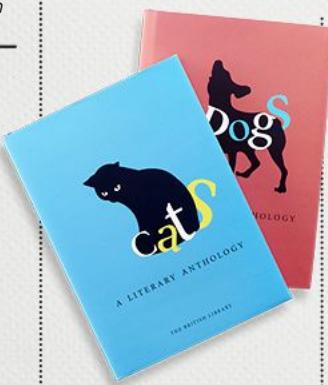
Tails are gonna wag for fleece and cotton **dog coats** with prints inspired by U.S. National Parks. From \$49; [pendleton-usa.com](http://pendleton-usa.com)



A fetching tin filled with dog-approved **all-natural gingersnap treats**. \$15; [polkadog.com](http://polkadog.com)



If a cat-friendly **cardboard ice-cream truck** was at the top of your list then—holy mackerel flavor!—you can look no further. \$29; [famousoto.com](http://famousoto.com)



For the pet obsessed: These **animal-centric anthologies** showcase how cats and dogs have left their paw prints on the literary world for centuries. \$20 each; [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

Folks, you saw it here first! A clucky, colorful **chicken bangle** so your favorite hen can stand out in the flock. \$24; [poultryhaus.com](http://poultryhaus.com)



## FIELD NOTES HOW TO ONE-UP THE PHOTO GIFT

We love a good photo-emblazoned coffee mug, but there's something about a proper silhouette (pet or human!) that makes us smile. At Silhouettes by Elle ([silhouettesbyelle.etsy.com](http://silhouettesbyelle.etsy.com)) you can create a shadow locket with the profile of your beloved for \$35. Paloma's Nest ([palomasnest.com](http://palomasnest.com)) offers hand-carved white ceramic profiles from \$150. Finally, Carter Kustera ([carterkustera.com](http://carterkustera.com)) creates colorful, painted pieces for \$110.



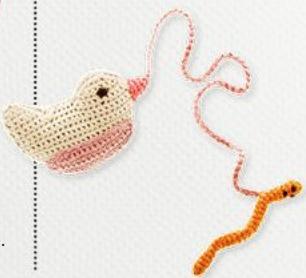
Log endless hours of squeaking thanks to this durable **yuletide chew toy**. \$12; [barkshop.com](http://barkshop.com)



These **dog-friendly food pairings** (milk and cookies, bacon and eggs) will provide ample Christmas-morning amusement. From \$11 per treat combo; [laineyspawtique.etsy.com](http://laineyspawtique.etsy.com)



This **bandanna collar** has all the charm of an old-fashioned neckerchief with a sturdy collar buckle. \$24; [wildebeest.co](http://wildebeest.co)



Even the most particular felines will appreciate this catnip-filled **crochet cat toy**. \$22; [mungoandmaud.com](http://mungoandmaud.com)



Catnapping gets the five-star treatment with this **hyacinth wood bed** topped with a plush cushion. \$41; [overstock.com](http://overstock.com)

# finds and favorites

Your guide to events, promotions, products, and online resources.



## La-Z-Boy Design Dash. Make a dream room yours.

La-Z-Boy dared five bloggers to make their whole life beautiful, starting with one room and one piece: a custom designed La-Z-Boy sofa. View their rooms and vote for your favorite for a chance to win \$10,000 in La-Z-Boy furniture at [design-dash.com](http://design-dash.com)



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## COUNTRY STORE



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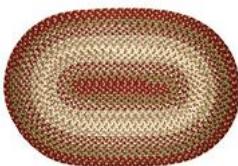
### CAMPUS QUILTS

Campus Quilt turns your old t-shirts into a new quilt. They do all the work and make getting a t-shirt quilt easy. As featured in Real Simple, and on The Today Show and Rachael Ray. Call 1-502-968-2850 or visit [campusquilt.com](http://campusquilt.com)



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Very durable and cleanable, this patterned rug is an indoor-outdoor carpet. U.S. made. Available in all sizes-chair pads and stair treads too. Also wool braided, hand hooked and woven rugs. Free 60 page catalog, U.S. only. Yankee Pride, Dept LE1215 29

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02184 Call 781-848-7611 or  
[braidedrugstore.com](http://braidedrugstore.com)

# STOCKING STUFFERS

Enhance the stash of store-bought candy with one of these more thoughtful finds.  
(They also make great stand-alone gifts for teachers, coworkers, and the like.)



1 A fin-tastic fish pocket knife. \$16; [coolmaterial.com](http://coolmaterial.com)

2 Handwarmers are the sort of practical luxury that no one buys for herself. \$16/set of two; [shoptwine.com](http://shoptwine.com)

3 Made in Michigan, maple syrup also makes for a sappy hostess gift. \$14; [shopterrain.com](http://shopterrain.com)

4 Color-blocked bamboo toothbrushes will save you from your sweet tooth. (See items 3 and 5.) \$18; [odeme.com](http://odeme.com)

5 These tart jelly candies from Oregon's Willamette Valley come in a pretty berry basket. \$12; [mouth.com](http://mouth.com)

6 Hack open a cold one with a stainless steel axe bottle opener. \$18; [areaware.com](http://areaware.com)

7 This too-cute typewriter pad cranks out sticky notes. \$13; [chroniclebooks.com](http://chroniclebooks.com)

8 A brassy pinecone bottle stopper will class up even the cheapest Merlot. \$15; [ballarddesigns.com](http://ballarddesigns.com)

9 American breweries are profiled on the faces of this craft beer deck. \$4; [bicyclecards.com](http://bicyclecards.com)

10 This composition notebook urges you to think before you tweet. (Journal entries are limited to 140 characters.) \$8; [penguinrandomhouse.com](http://penguinrandomhouse.com)

11 If Paul Bunyan were a clean-shaven hipster, he'd likely smell like this woodsy Balsam & Fir Soap. \$9; [formularyfiftyfive.etsy.com](http://formularyfiftyfive.etsy.com)

12 A leather pouch necklace is a modern-day take on a locket. \$44; [fountleather.com](http://fountleather.com)

13 Complete with felt ammo, a slingshot will be a hit for all ages. \$12; [butterhomeseattle.com](http://butterhomeseattle.com)

14 This robust coffee sleeve is made of blanket remnants from an iconic American mill. \$10; [faribaultmill.com](http://faribaultmill.com)

# HOW OPPOSITES ATTRACT—BY DESIGN



You can't help what objects you fall in love with. But can you make that trendy new lamp jibe with your grandmother's heirloom dresser?

The fabulous Beekman Boys answer with a resounding "Yes!" in their new book, **Beekman 1802 Style**. Through stunning photographs from *Country Living* magazine, the boys illustrate their unique home design tips and tricks for mixing high and low, East and West, indoors and outdoors, traditional furnishings with sleekly modern elements, and more! You'll learn how to create the living space of your dreams.

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books and e-books  
are sold.



# CountryLiving

December 2015



Download this  
pattern at  
[countryliving.com/  
cross-stitch](http://countryliving.com/cross-stitch).

XXXXXX  
(Our Copy Chief  
Katie Bowlby  
stitched the one  
you see here.)

# Home FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Featuring both rough-hewn architecture and softer seasonal accents (hello, flannel!), this cozy cabin nestled in the Wisconsin woods is equal parts knotty *and* nice.



Made of moss- and lichen-covered twigs, the wreath sets an unfussy tone for visitors.

Mulled wine, served from a 1960s Danish muller (above right) adds to the warm welcome.



Jane, a Portuguese Podengo, stands guard over a circa 1991 Jeep Grand Wagoneer.



### 1. TARTAN AT EVERY TURN

Iconic plaid adds instant warmth to a room. From throw pillows to gift wrap, the preppy pattern adds a little polish to the otherwise understated space.

### 2. QUAIN'T TREE TRIMMINGS

A simple popcorn garland, glass ball ornaments, and a wooden crate in lieu of a tree skirt reinforce the home's-stuck-in-time vibe.

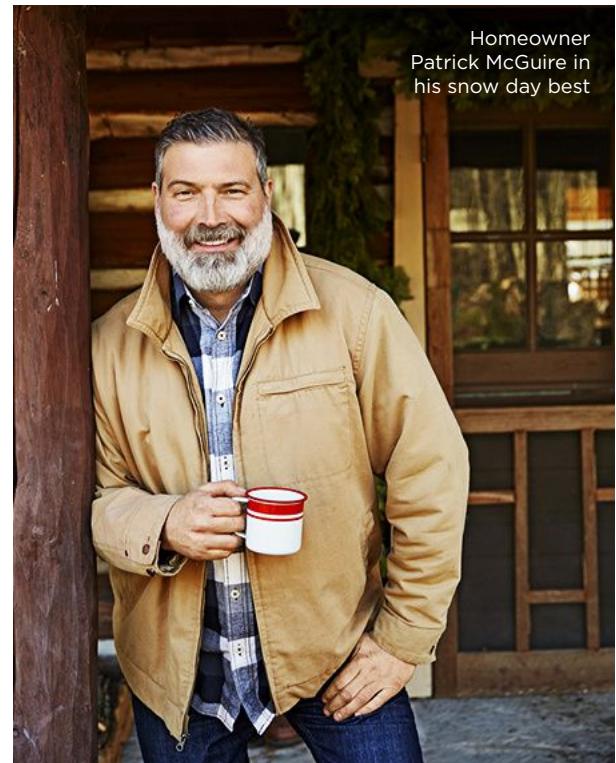
### 3. HOMEGROWN GREENERY

From the fir garland above the mantel to solo sprigs of pine found in vases throughout the house, pops of nature add an organic element to the cabin.

Throughout the cabin, which overlooks the Menominee River, you'll find initials of past homeowners carved into the beams.

**A** decade ago, Patrick McGuire inherited a one-bedroom cabin that had gone to the birds. (Not to mention bats, field mice, raccoons...) But as the owner of McGuire Architectural Interiors in Chicago,

he was up for the challenge. During numerous treks from Illinois to rural Wisconsin, where the cabin is located, he replaced rotted logs, installed insulation, and introduced a proper kitchen. In short, he made the 1,200-square-foot homestead, which has been in his family for four generations, livable once again. Today, after 10 years of TLC, details like the knotty pine paneling and working stone fireplace give the space a brand of rustic that's more refined, less "raccoon." An avid outdoorsman, Patrick primarily uses the house as a hunting lodge, but every December, he happily opens up his little labor of love, which has a spacious sleeping loft, to his extended family for a Christmas celebration rooted in old-fashioned charm. These days, the only creatures stirring are the ones by the bar cart.



Homeowner  
Patrick McGuire in  
his snow day best





**HOW SMART  
IS THIS?**

These tartan window treatments are affordable flannel sheets clipped to the curtain rod.

4

6

5



#### 4. WOODLAND CREATURES

Whether it's a faux figurine like the little fella camping out in the windowsill or the real (mounted) deal on page 72, Patrick's hunting lodge pays tribute to creatures big and small.

#### 5. RETRO SPARKLE

Dainty white twinklers? Been there, strung that. Opaque old-school bulbs pack a more graphic punch and beam with nostalgic charm. (Wary of plugging in a vintage strand? Find new LED versions of the originals at [christmaslightetc.com](http://christmaslightetc.com).)

#### 6. MAKESHIFT BAR CART

The sleek serving station is actually an old typesetter's stand topped with Nero Marinace marble. Accessorized with loose branches of white pine, it can roll in and outdoors as needed.

#### 7. HOLIDAY SPIRITS

Patrick serves up his Wisconsin Mule (a kicky blend of mulled wine concentrate, bourbon, and ginger beer garnished with citrus) to promote yuletide cheer.



#### 8. POPS OF RED

The cheery shade is found in peppy doses throughout the home, from the task clip-on lighting shown here to the vintage lanterns lining the living room mantel (69).

#### 9. ONE-POT MEALS

A slow-cooked supper simmering in a Dutch oven creates a savory aroma that welcomes guests indoors after fun in the snow.

#### 10. VINTAGE SIGNS

Metal finds add instant patina to the newly updated kitchen. (Tip: For holiday flair, seek out old signage from candy companies or tree farms.)

#### 11. CANDY CANE STRIPES

Red-and-white runners (there's also one in the entry) offer a sweet nod to the classic Christmas treat without going too theme-y.

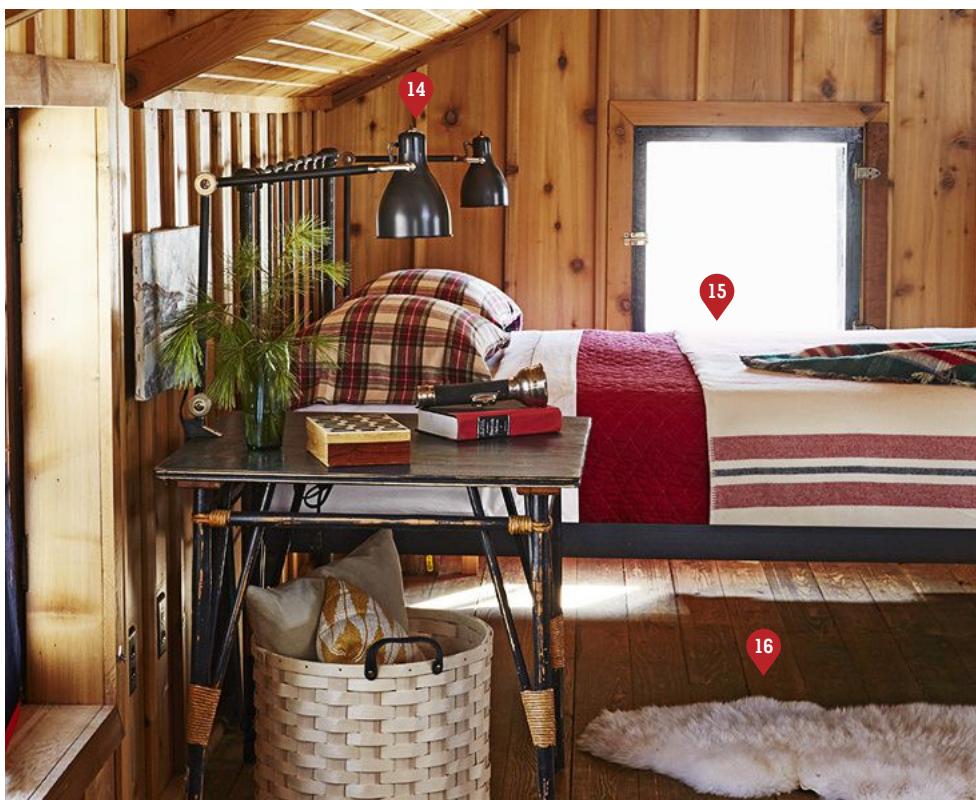


### 12. SLED CARD DISPLAY

A century-old coaster calls to mind winters past and showcases a flurry of Christmas greetings.

### 13. (WILD) GAME ROOM

Woven chairs, a metal table, and a mounted stag turn the enclosed porch into a game room in more ways than one.



### 14. COZY LIGHTING

Long-arm plug-in sconces (in a handsome bronze finish that matches the old metal bed) cast a warm glow for a late-night reading of *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*.

### 15. SEASONAL BEDDING

Featuring four total beds, the sleeping loft gets a winter refresh with the addition of vintage Woolrich blankets and tartan pillow shams (part of the same set as the sheets-turned-curtains on page 70).

### 16. COMFORT UNDERFOOT

A handful of synthetic flokati rugs (\$13; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com)) are scattered throughout the house for an extra layer of softness. Additional pillows, stashed in an ash basket from Schoolhouse Electric (\$85; [schoolhouse electric.com](http://schoolhouseelectric.com)), provide more cozy comforts at the ready.



#### A FRESHLY CUT TREE

"Every year I hit the woods and chop down an evergreen. I love how the woodsy aroma fills the house."

**Mail-Order Fir Tree**, from \$40;  
[mtnstarfarms.com](http://mtnstarfarms.com)



#### STONE FIREPLACE

"The stone hearth is original to the cabin. In the winter, this toasty spot is truly the heart of the home."

**River Rock**; [eldoradostone.com](http://eldoradostone.com)  
for stores



#### A ROARING FIRE

"We aim to do things the old-fashioned way around here, including heating the house with a wood-burning stove."

**Log Carrier**, \$129; [pendleton-usa.com](http://pendleton-usa.com)



#### A WOODY WAGONEER

"Everything from a pillow to a flask feels more charming sporting the iconic ride."

**Wagoneer Needlepoint Flask**, \$65;  
[smathersandbranson.com](http://smathersandbranson.com)



#### PLAID SHEETS

"Nothing says cozy and Christmas quite like tartan."

**Pembroke Plaid Sheet Set**,  
from \$99; [potterybarn.com](http://potterybarn.com)

# WHAT MAKES MY HOME Country

"It's a rustic cabin in the middle of nowhere. It's hard to get more country than that."

—Patrick McGuire



#### PINE ARMOIRE

"The home is so old there are no closets. Instead, I have armoires where I store lanterns, extra pillows, and blankets."

**Armoire in Medium Honey**,  
\$1,199; [sancarlosimports.com](http://sancarlosimports.com)



#### ENGINEER BOOTS

"My trusty kicks have seen me through many, many Wisconsin winters."

**Waterproof Hiker**, \$179; [llbean.com](http://llbean.com)



#### INDUSTRIAL LIGHTING

"Factory-inspired fixtures add just the right edge to the humble cabin (and make up for the lack of recessed lighting)."

**Lite Source Lamp**,  
\$37; [staples.com](http://staples.com)



#### Add Leaves to the Eaves

Outfit a drape of greenery with lights, ornaments, or berries. (Check out [frontgate.com](http://frontgate.com) for outdoor-friendly options.)

#### Light Things Up

Add a touch of green year-round.  
Carson L-Arm Fixture, from \$199;  
[rejuvenation.com](http://rejuvenation.com)



#### Hang an All-Weather Wreath

Why stop at the door?  
Upgrade a halo of Scotch pine and fir with LED lights and hardy ornaments.

#### Use What You've Got

Stash plain planters, pots, and pails with birch logs and tiny pine trees bedecked with pinecones.

1 4

## CREATE A FESTIVE WELCOME

Nothing says joy to the world—okay, neighborhood—like a house embellished with barn red and evergreen.



# HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY *Country* CHRISTMAS

There's something especially magical about the understated beauty of December in the countryside. From brown paper packages to simple place settings, here are 35 ways to have yourself a beautifully merry (and blessedly unharried) holiday.  
'Tis a gift to be simple!

---

*produced by*

Charlyne Mattox and Page Mullins

*written by*

Laura Kostelny, Caroline Collins McKenzie,  
and Laurren Welch

*photographs by*

Burcu Avsar

5

## String Your Own Garland

Tired of popcorn? Thread marshmallows with red-and-white baker's twine for a sweet update.

# 6 TO 9 HANG A COUNTRY STOCKING

From gingham to grain sack, a mix of down-home stockings makes for a very merry mantel display.

## Grain Sack

It's just waiting to be filled with delicious dry goods. \$25; [jenniferhelenehome.etsy.com](http://jenniferhelenehome.etsy.com)



**Gingham**  
Santa will know precisely where to check in. \$48; [serenaandlily.com](http://serenaandlily.com)

## Ticking Stripe

The candy cane-like edging bodes well for sweets. \$18; [acottagesmall.etsy.com](http://acottagesmall.etsy.com)



**Seed Sack**  
Plant this pick on a mantel to add a graphic touch. \$75; [catnapcottage.etsy.com](http://catnapcottage.etsy.com)



## 10

### ATTEND A SMALL-TOWN PARADE

Move over, Macy's! We love the pomp and circumstance of the big-city pageantry but, to us, nothing signals the start of the season—or shows off the heart of a small town—quite like a quaint Christmas parade. The

excitement is everywhere, from the moment the homemade floats find their places. Folks happily take a break from the hustle and bustle the season brings. They slow down. They gather. They bid one another well. Year after year, along the never-changing route, Boy Scouts wave and toss out candy while little ones scramble to scoop up a treat or five. The local marching band cheerfully bears the cold, performing for friends and families huddled together.

This year, don your mittens and scarves and hit Main Street to welcome the season the small-town America way.



## 11

### Build a Better Fire

These moose-shaped fire starters—formed from a mix of sawdust, wax, and tar—are a simple way to get a holiday glow. \$24 for six; [shopterrain.com](http://shopterrain.com)

MOOSE FIRE STARTERS, RANDY MAYOR. ILLUSTRATION BY THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM.



## 12

### ADD Rustic Charm TO A CARD DISPLAY

Show off the influx of season's greetings on a vintage tobacco basket by tucking well wishes into the overlapping strips of reed. (For old baskets, try eBay, Etsy, or CL Fair vendor Great Stuff By Paul; [greatstuffbypaul.com](http://greatstuffbypaul.com).) And if you want your good tidings to stand out from the pack, try one of these customizable options.



#### 13

##### Bespoke Pup Portrait

Give your best friend the starring role. \$99 for 50 custom cards; [mdbweddings.etsy.com](http://mdbweddings.etsy.com)



#### 14

##### Custom Gouache

Kristen Rosas draws inspiration from family photos. \$50 for portrait and \$2.50 per card; [luxandtrip.etsy.com](http://luxandtrip.etsy.com)



#### 15

##### Stick People Still Life

Commemorate the work of your budding artist. \$2 each; [minted.com](http://minted.com)



#### 16

##### Fetching Greeting

Paper & Parcel turns snaps of pets into howl-arious cards. ("Feliz Navidog" also available.) \$2 each; [minted.com](http://minted.com)



17

18

19

20

21

## SET A FESTIVE (NOT FUSSY) TABLE

Feast your eyes on these essentials for a warm and welcoming spread.

17

### Simple Greenery

Look no further than your backyard for the makings of a pretty table runner. Wood slices add a rough-hewn touch and can also log time as chargers or makeshift cake stands.

18

### A Pop of Plaid

A classic tartan tablecloth dresses up a space in a polished (but not at all pretentious) way. *Batali in Coral; fabricut.com*

19

### Something New...

Hey, it's the holidays, so splurge on just one or two special touches for the table, whether it's double old-fashioned glasses (\$26 each; [juliska.com](http://juliska.com)), gray-blue salad plates (\$18 each; [canvashomestore.com](http://canvashomestore.com)) or cozy cable-knit dinner plates (\$17 each; [mud-pie.com](http://mud-pie.com)).

20

### ...And Something Old

For a whimsical place setting, slide good old handwritten namecards into the slots of vintage sleigh bells (we found these on eBay) and give new meaning to "be there with bells on."

21

### A Rosy Glow

Candles in oversize mason jars (from \$20 each; [pier1.com](http://pier1.com)) and frosted bulb lights add instant ambience. Rose gold flatware, a striking alternative to silver, reinforces the warm, magical vibe (\$150/place setting; [simonpearce.com](http://simonpearce.com)).



## 22 HEAD TO THE TREE FARM

Say what you will about the convenience of an artificial tree, but there's nothing like holiday decorating from the ground up. So pile into the station wagon (or your family's equivalent) and go on a hot cider-fueled pursuit of this year's specimen. As is true for most family outings, good-natured arguments will ensue (That one's too wide! Why, why are we walking so far? Mom, put down the axe!), but all will be forgiven by the time that one-of-a-kind fir finds its way home. And after Dad hauls down the ornaments from the attic and you go to hang that clay handprint from 1972, you'll be reminded that family, like the "too-wide" tree and its humble homemade trimmings, is perfect in its imperfection. Take that, plastic.



**Pinecone**

A woodsy favorite, finished in a swath of metallic paint. *20-inch Gold Wreath, \$60; michaels.com*

**Bow**

A red metal accent that's hard to top. *19-inch Bow, \$30; homedepot.com*

**Wood**

Laser-cut birch in an elegant laurel wreath design. *20-inch Laser-Cut Leaf Wreath, \$22; aihconcepts.etsy.com*

**Pom-Pom & Bells**

A happy cluster of woolen balls and bells. *13-inch Jingle Bell Wreath by Roost, \$75; thelightshop.com*

*DIY IT!*

**Wagon Wheel**  
We whipped up this one ourselves with juniper greenery woven around a 15.5-inch vintage wagon wheel. *Juniper Garland, \$25/4.5 feet; gardensoftheblueridge.com*

## 24 TO 31 SPRUCE UP YOUR FRONT DOOR

Round out your holiday decor with one of these festive new twists on the classic display.

**Star**

Preserved cedar is a true showstopper. *20-inch Star Wreath, \$68; shopterrain.com*

**Paper**

Winter-white sprigs of holly and bay leaves. *15-inch White Wreath Kit, \$25; papersource.com*

**Rope**

Hand-woven with burlap and manila roping. *21-inch Hampton Wreath (bow not included), \$99; thefestivehome.com*



32

### Top the Tree With Punched Tin

From ornaments to garlands, punched-tin pieces are galvanizing to become this season's hottest holiday trend. Made of antiqued sheet metal, this nearly 10-inch star scores tons of style points. \$11; [apothicairerochester.com](http://apothicairerochester.com)



33

### Dress Up Brown Paper Packages

Our new favorite thing? This fluffy twisted wool string. Available in 12 colors, it's the perfect, happily humble finish to kraft paper-wrapped presents. \$12/10 yards; [knotandbow.etsy.com](http://knotandbow.etsy.com)



34

### COOK UP A Warm Glow

Yet another reason to spring for the next dough bowl you run across at the antiques store: It makes for a beautiful centerpiece (or menorah). Fill the wooden bowl with floral foam, insert candles (we love the simplicity of plain old white), and nestle seasonal greenery in between the tapers.



35 PREPARE A CHRISTMAS DAY BREAKFAST

Blame it on the hurried pace of our hyper-connected world, but the sit-down breakfast, it seems, has fallen out of favor. Let's change that. This year, on Christmas morning, after the gifts are unwrapped and the shiny new bikes make their inaugural trips down the driveway, assemble your family around the table to revive the lost art of a leisurely country breakfast. Just promise us this: Between bites of sugar-cured bacon, pause, for a second, to sop up this delicious moment, when the humans you hold most dear are gathered, together, around the table, breaking flaky, buttery bread. This, *this* sunny-side-up moment is what matters. The rest—the tree, the gifts, the bikes—is just gravy.

**White Dove** | Benjamin Moore



# Merry AND White!

By sprucing up her historic (and outdated) Tudor with buckets of snowy paint (102 gallons, to be exact!), Minneapolis designer Jenaaea Gearhart created a pristine backdrop that lets holiday accents shine. Consider it the perfect wintry mix.

\*  
**BRIGHT IDEA!**

**CREATE A ROARING FOCAL POINT**

Filled with split logs (some accented with colorful chalk for extra panache), the non-working fireplace still proves a cozy anchor for the family room.



## Blame it on

decades of blustery Minnesota winters. While most people associate the holiday season with color—and lots of it—Minneapolis designer Jennaea Gearhart envisions white. “There’s something magical about an all-white room, and especially at Christmas,” she says. So when Jennaea, along with husband Kurt and their three children, moved into a 1910 Tudor home, she created a cool, understated palette that allows her reclaimed finds (that dining table!) and charming decorative accents (those stockings!) to shine that much brighter. The end result: An airy-meets-merry winter wonderland—no shovel or snow plow required.



## FAMILY ROOM

Jennaea put Christmas magic in overdrive in the family room (see page 82), where a cardboard taxidermy deer (sporting a Rudolph-red clown nose) watches over the jolly scene. Taking a cue from the throw pillows, the family twirled up the tree with papier-mâché ornaments in red and blue, a fresh twist on traditional red and green. For a frosty finish, she hung ice-skate stockings; their nubby white felt complements other neutral textures in the room such as the slip-covered sofa.

## KITCHEN & DINING ROOM

When renovating the kitchen, Jennaea debated whether to top the new island with marble or butcher block. Her solution? Go for both! “I split the difference and have perfect spots for chopping veggies and rolling dough,” she says. She also removed a wall between the kitchen and dining room, making better use of the light that pours in from the leaded glass windows and more space for her prized barnwood farm table.





Floor & Patio  
Paint in White  
Benjamin Moore

BRIGHT IDEA  
**USE OUTDOOR  
PAINT INDOORS**

The original stripped oak floors were so worn out that Jennaea felt zero guilt about coating them with easy-to-clean, skid-resistant porch paint.



## BEDROOM

Visions of sugarplums? Nah. How about deer, swans, and scrolling flora and fauna, as on display in the wallpaper in daughter Maddy's room (*Nethercote; hyggeandwest.com*). The bright blue design offers a break from the surrounding white rooms and smartly disguises asymmetrical ductwork. To balance the bold pattern, Jennaea kept the art simple; a pair of vintage paint-by-number horses reins in the look.

## MORE FESTIVE LITTLE TOUCHES

### FLOCKED TREE

Placed in a glazed bucket and strewn with pinecones and ribbon, this sophisticated feather tree creates a happy, humble welcome.

### CANDY BOWL ADVENT CALENDAR

Ceramic cups filled with sweets and adorned with hand-painted numerals make for a fun countdown atop the pickled mahogany piano.

### GREETING CARD LADDER

An old orchard staple becomes a fruitful holiday display with season's greetings (secured with clothespins attached to a string) along one side. A chalkboard provides a spot for well wishes.

### FRAMED WREATH

A mini evergreen wreath, highlighted by a thrift store frame casually propped against the wall, adds bedside holiday cheer.



BRIGHT IDEA!

**MAKE A  
CHEERIER BED**  
Tucked beneath the  
neutral bedding,  
vibrant red flannel  
sheets pack an  
unexpected punch.



## BATHROOM

The bathroom's barn doors are the result of a successful junking expedition—right under the Gearharts' roof! The striking pair was discovered during the kitchen renovation. "We opened up the wall, and there they were, still hanging on their beautiful original hardware," Jennaea says. Spruced up with—yep—more white paint, they frame the bath's 8" x 8" cement hexagon tiles ([sabinehill.com](http://sabinehill.com)) and clawfoot tub.

### BRIGHT IDEA

**HANG A MIRROR HIGH**  
An antique mirror above the windows keeps the vaulted ceiling from feeling too cavernous, while the reflective surface amps up natural light.



*"I love taking something old and making it feel new once again, whether it's as simple as an antique door or an entire 115-year-old house."*

—JENNAEA GEARHART



#### FARMHOUSE TABLE

"I love its form and function. There aren't many things that are beautiful and up to daily use by three children."

**Yukon Table with Benches, \$800;**  
[ezekielandstearns.com](http://ezekielandstearns.com)



#### COZY THROW PILLOWS

"Colorful, textured throw pillows add just the right amount of cozy to our winter white palette."

**Pintuck Pillow, \$50;**  
[cb2.com](http://cb2.com)



#### ORNATE MIRROR

"There's something so country about pairing the elaborate with the plain, like I've done in the entryway with our antique mirror and chippy credenza."

**Venetian Mirror, \$279;**  
[wisteria.com](http://wisteria.com)



#### PAPIER-MÂCHÉ ORNAMENTS

"I fight my designer urge for perfection and let my kids decorate on their own. Pretty trimmings ensure it will look great!"

**Ornaments, \$28 for three;**  
[serenaandlily.com](http://serenaandlily.com)

#### SPATTERWARE

"This country classic adds an unexpected pop of color to our dining room."

**Dishware,** from \$29;  
[benningtonpotters.com](http://benningtonpotters.com)

## WHAT MAKES MY HOME Country

"Our house marries the old and new, neutral and colorful to create a warm and inviting space for friends and family."

—Jennaea Gearhart



#### WHIMSICAL DECORATIONS

"I can't help but smile when I see these jolly oversize stockings hung on the mantel."

**Skate Stocking, \$96 each;**  
[arcadiahomeinc.com](http://arcadiahomeinc.com)



#### PASTORAL WALLPAPER

"I'm drawn to patterns that are inspired by nature but designed in a modern way."

**"Folk" Peel & Stick Wallpaper, \$35/roll;**  
[chasingpaper.com](http://chasingpaper.com)



#### CARDBOARD TAXIDERMY

"Simple and striking, our faux deer puts a homespun twist on the classic mounted buck."

**Deer in Gold, \$15;**  
[worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com)



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## START WITH PURE VANILLA. END WITH PURE JOY.

### McCormick® Gingerbread Men Cookies



3 cups flour  
2 tsp. McCormick Ground Ginger  
1 tsp. McCormick Ground Cinnamon  
1 tsp. baking soda  
1/4 tsp. McCormick Ground Nutmeg  
1/4 tsp. salt  
3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter, softened  
3/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar  
1/2 cup molasses  
1 egg  
1 tsp. McCormick Pure Vanilla Extract

**MIX** first 6 ingredients. Set aside. Beat butter and sugar with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add molasses, egg and vanilla; mix well. Gradually beat in flour mixture on low speed until well mixed. Press dough into a disk. Wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate 4 hours or overnight.

**ROLL** out dough to 1/4-inch thickness on lightly floured work surface. Cut into gingerbread men with 5-inch cookie cutter. Place 1 inch apart on ungreased baking sheets.

**BAKE** in preheated 350°F oven 8 to 10 minutes or until edges of cookies just begin to brown. Cool on baking sheets 2 minutes. Remove to wire racks; cool completely. Decorate cookies by piping designs with plain and Colorful Royal Icing (see [mccormick.com](http://mccormick.com) for recipe).

Makes 2 dozen.

At McCormick, we believe pure tastes better. That's why our herbs and spices have no added fillers. Just 100% pure flavor. For more great-tasting recipes, visit [mccormick.com](http://mccormick.com)

# Blue Ribbon Kitchen

PRIZE PICKS AND SHOWSTOPPING RECIPES FOR THE HEART OF YOUR HOME

*gift it*

Fill a six-egg carton ([bonaceri.etsy.com](http://bonaceri.etsy.com)) with mini lotus cupcake liners ([papermart.com](http://papermart.com)); add cookies. Tie it up with a plain tag adorned with a bottle brush wreath ([juliecollings.etsy.com](http://juliecollings.etsy.com)).

*RED VELVET SNOWBALLS*  
page 93

*THE*

EVERYTHING GUIDE TO  
**HOLIDAY COOKIES**

Get the (baked) goods on delicious new recipes, pretty packaging ideas, clever shortcuts, and more. The only thing that's missing is a frosty glass of milk.

TRIPLE CHOCOLATE-  
HAZELNUT COOKIES

page 93

\*  
*gift it*

Stack four cookies  
in a clear plastic bag,  
then tie decorative  
ribbon ([lemoncatshop  
.etsy.com](http://lemoncatshop.etsy.com)) at each  
end of the bag to  
cinch. Trim ends and  
add a metal-rim tag.

## MERRY UP YOUR TOOLS

Add a little whimsy to your work station with these baking accessories.



**Mixing Bowls**, \$50/set of 3;  
[charmceramics.etsy.com](http://charmceramics.etsy.com)



**Holiday Spatula**, \$10;  
[crateandbarrel.com](http://crateandbarrel.com)



**Tartan Plaid Oven Mitt**, \$10;  
[surlatable.com](http://surlatable.com)

Line two baking sheets with parchment paper. Whisk together flour, sugars, baking powder, salt, baking soda, and coffee in a bowl.

- 2.** Beat cocoa, oil, hazelnut spread, and  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup warm water on low speed with an electric mixer until combined, about 30 seconds. Add eggs, one at a time, beating until incorporated after each addition. Beat in vanilla. Stir flour mixture into cocoa mixture just until incorporated. Stir in chocolate and hazelnuts.
- 3.** Scoop cookies (about 2 tablespoons each), 3 inches apart, on prepared baking sheets. Sprinkle cookies with sea salt. Bake, rotating sheets halfway through, until dry around the edges, 12 to 14 minutes. Cool baking sheets on wire racks for 10 minutes, then remove to the racks to cool completely. Repeat with remaining dough.

## White Chocolate-and-Peppermint Blondies

**MAKES** 18 blondies  
**WORKING TIME** 25 minutes  
**TOTAL TIME** 3 hours

- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup (1  $\frac{1}{2}$  sticks) unsalted butter, melted, plus more for the pan
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup granulated sugar
- $\frac{2}{3}$  cup packed light brown sugar
- 3 large eggs, at room temperature
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract, divided
- 1/4 teaspoon pure peppermint extract
- 2  $\frac{2}{3}$  cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled
- $\frac{3}{4}$  teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups coarsely chopped white chocolate
- 16 ounces cream cheese
- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup peppermints, crushed

- 1.** Preheat oven to 325°F. Butter a 13-by-9-inch baking pan and line with parchment paper, leaving a 2-inch overhang on the long sides.
- 2.** Whisk together butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar, eggs, 1 teaspoon vanilla, and peppermint extract in a bowl until combined. Whisk together flour, baking powder, and salt in a separate bowl. Stir flour mixture into

## Red Velvet Snowballs

**MAKES** about 2 dozen cookies

**WORKING TIME** 20 minutes

**TOTAL TIME** 1 hour, 40 minutes

- 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled
- 1/4 cup cocoa powder
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 3/4 cup unsalted butter (1  $\frac{1}{2}$  sticks), at room temperature
- 3 cups confectioners' sugar, divided
- 1 tablespoon red food coloring
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon white vinegar

**1.** Preheat oven to 350°F with racks in the upper and lower thirds. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper. Whisk together flour, cocoa, baking powder, and salt in a bowl.

**2.** Beat butter and 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups confectioners' sugar on medium speed with an electric mixer until smooth, 1 to 2 minutes. Reduce mixer speed to low and gradually add flour mixture, beating just until incorporated, 1 to 2 minutes. Add food coloring, vanilla, and vinegar; increase mixer speed to medium, and beat just until dough forms large crumbs, 15 to 20 seconds.

**3.** Shape dough into balls (about 2 tablespoons each). Place balls, 1 inch apart, on prepared baking sheets; freeze 10 minutes. Bake, rotating sheets halfway through, until dry around the edges, 15 to 18 minutes. Cool on baking sheets on wire racks 5 minutes.

**4.** Place remaining 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups confectioners' sugar in a bowl. Working one at a time, gently toss warm cookies in sugar to coat. Return cookies to baking sheets to cool completely; reserve remaining sugar. Once cool, toss again, in batches, in remaining sugar.

## Triple Chocolate-Hazelnut Cookies

**MAKES** about 4 dozen cookies

**WORKING TIME** 20 minutes

**TOTAL TIME** 1 hour, 45 minutes

- 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup packed light brown sugar

- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon instant coffee powder
- 1 cup cocoa powder
- 3/4 cup canola oil
- 3/4 cup chocolate-hazelnut spread
- 2 large eggs, at room temperature
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups coarsely chopped bittersweet chocolate
- 1 cup coarsely chopped toasted hazelnuts
- 2 teaspoons flaked sea salt

**1.** Preheat oven to 350°F with the racks in the upper and lower thirds.

 *gift it*

Line a kraft paper box ([spiralsage.etsy.com](http://spiralsage.etsy.com)) with striped wax tissue paper ([sweetideasbyjanet.etsy.com](http://sweetideasbyjanet.etsy.com)). Add blondies, close box, then wrap exterior with decorative paper ([worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com)), red ribbon, and a candy cane accent.



WHITE  
CHOCOLATE-  
AND-PEPPERMINT  
BLONDIES  
*page 93*



 gift it

Line a berry basket ([shopsweetlulu.com](http://shopsweetlulu.com)) with polka dot tissue paper ([sweetideasbyjanet.etsy.com](http://sweetideasbyjanet.etsy.com)) and add cookies. Wrap with rickrack, and sew in place with a button and embroidery thread.

## SWEETEN UP YOUR COOKIE JAR

Store your treats in style in one of these counter-worthy jars. (They also make great gifts.)



**Red Ceramic Mason Cookie Jar,**  
\$13; [worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com)



**Copper Hammered Cookie Jar,**  
\$32; [overstock.com](http://overstock.com)



**Pickup Truck Cookie Jar,**  
\$13; [worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com)



Bonus! This jar comes with 1 pound of fresh-baked cookies!

**Fresh Cookies Ceramic Jar,**  
\$36; [byrdcookiecompany.com](http://byrdcookiecompany.com)



### BISCUIT-AND-JAM COOKIES

butter mixture just until combined. Stir in chocolate. Spread batter in prepared pan.

3. Bake until golden brown and a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 30 to 35 minutes. Cool completely in pan on a wire rack.
4. Beat cream cheese and confectioners' sugar on medium speed with an electric mixer until light and fluffy, 1 to 2 minutes. Beat in remaining 1 teaspoon vanilla. Spread frosting on blondies; sprinkle with peppermints. Freeze until frosting is set, 30 minutes. Lift blondies from pan using parchment overhangs. Cut into 18 squares.

### Biscuit-and-Jam Cookies

**MAKES** about 20 sandwich cookies  
**WORKING TIME** 30 minutes  
**TOTAL TIME** 1 hour, 30 minutes

**3 1/2 cups plus 2 tablespoons cake flour, spooned and leveled, plus more for surface**

**1/2 cup granulated sugar**  
**1/2 cup packed light brown sugar**  
**2 tablespoons baking powder**  
**1 teaspoon baking soda**  
**1 teaspoon kosher salt**  
**1 cup (2 sticks) cold unsalted butter, cut up**  
**1 cup large unsweetened coconut flakes**  
**1 large egg**  
**1/2 cup heavy cream**  
**2 teaspoons raw sugar**  
**1/2 cup strawberry jam**

1. Preheat oven to 425°F with racks in the upper and lower thirds. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper. Place flour, granulated sugar, brown sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt in the bowl of food processor



**FRUITCAKE  
COOKIES**

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\*  
*gift it*

Line a mini loaf pan,  
(amazon.com) with  
plain tissue paper  
then wax paper.  
Add cookies, fold  
over paper, then wrap  
with ribbon and  
attach a card with  
a mini clothespin  
(michaels.com).



and pulse to combine, 4 to 6 times. Add butter and coconut and pulse just until mixture resembles coarse meal, 15 to 25 times. Whisk together egg and cream in a bowl; reserve 2 tablespoons. Add remaining egg mixture to butter mixture and pulse just until mixture begins to pull away from the sides of the bowl, 20 to 30 times.

- 2.** Turn dough out onto a lightly floured surface and knead gently to bring dough together, 4 to 6 times. Pat dough to 1/4-inch thickness and cut out cookies with a 2 1/2-inch cookie cutter. Brush one side of cookies with reserved egg mixture and sprinkle with raw sugar. Place cookies, 1 inch apart, on prepared baking sheets. Bake, rotating sheets halfway through, until golden brown, 7 to 9 minutes. Cool baking sheets on wire racks. Repeat with remaining cookies.
- 3.** Spread jam on the bottom of half of the cookies. Top with remaining cookies.

## Fruitcake Cookies

**MAKES** about 5 dozen cookies

**WORKING TIME** 25 minutes

**TOTAL TIME** 2 hours, 20 minutes

**1 3/4 cups** cake flour, spooned and leveled, divided  
**1 teaspoon** baking powder  
**1/2 teaspoon** baking soda  
**1/4 teaspoon** kosher salt  
**1/8 teaspoon** ground cinnamon  
Pinch ground nutmeg  
**1/2 cup** chopped toasted pecans  
**1/2 cup** chopped pistachios  
**1/2 cup** (1 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature  
**1 cup** packed dark brown sugar  
**1 large egg**, at room temperature  
**1 1/2 teaspoons** pure vanilla extract, divided  
**1 cup** finely chopped Maraschino cherries, well drained  
**1/4 cup** finely chopped candied pineapple  
**1/2 cup** confectioners' sugar  
**1/2 tablespoon** brandy  
**1 to 2 teaspoons** milk

- 1.** Preheat oven to 350°F with the racks in the upper and lower thirds. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper. Whisk together 1 1/4



cups flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, and nutmeg in a bowl. Toss pecans and pistachios with remaining 1/2 cup flour in a separate bowl.

- 2.** Beat butter and brown sugar on medium speed with an electric mixer until light and fluffy, 1 to 2 minutes. Add egg, beating until incorporated. Beat in 1 teaspoon vanilla. Reduce mixer speed to low and gradually add flour mixture, beating just until incorporated, 1 to 2 minutes. Stir in nuts (and any flour remaining in bowl), cherries, and pineapple until evenly incorporated. Scoop dough (about 1/2 tablespoon each), 2 inches apart, on prepared baking sheets. Bake, rotating sheets halfway through, until

golden brown around edges, 14 to 16 minutes. Cool on baking sheets on wire racks for 10 minutes; remove to the racks to cool completely.

- 3.** Whisk together confectioners' sugar, brandy, remaining 1/2 teaspoon vanilla, and 1 teaspoon milk (add an additional teaspoon of milk if glaze is too thick). Drizzle over cooled cookies. Let sit, at room temperature, until glaze is set, about 30 minutes.

## Spiced Shortbread

**MAKES** 16 cookies

**WORKING TIME** 15 minutes

**TOTAL TIME** 1 hour, 50 minutes

**1/2 cup** (1 stick) cold unsalted butter, cut up, plus more for pan

\*  
gift it

Wrap the edges of a cardboard pie slice box ([paramoreartworks.etsy.com](http://paramoreartworks.etsy.com)) with decorative ribbon ([thestockroom.etsy.com](http://thestockroom.etsy.com)). Wrap cookies in parchment, then secure with ribbon and tuck inside box.

Wrap cookies in parchment, then secure with ribbon and tuck inside box.

Use the base of a fluted glass to dress up plain old store-bought cookie dough with a pretty patterned imprint.



**1 1/2 cups whole-wheat flour,  
spooned and leveled**  
**1/2 cup packed dark brown sugar**  
**1/4 teaspoon kosher salt**  
**3/4 teaspoon ground ginger**  
**1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon**

**1.** Butter a 9-inch cake pan, line bottom with parchment paper; butter parchment. Place flour, sugar, salt, ginger, and cinnamon in the bowl of a food processor and pulse to combine, 3 to 5 times. Add butter and pulse

until mixture looks like wet sand, 40 to 50 times.

- 2.** Press mixture evenly into prepared pan. Prick dough, leaving a 1-inch border, with the tines of a fork; freeze 30 minutes.
- 3.** Preheat oven to 350°F. Bake until set and just beginning to brown around the edges, 30 to 35 minutes.
- 4.** Place pan on a wire rack and immediately use the handle of a wooden spoon to press a scallop pattern into

the edge of shortbread and a sharp knife to score into 16 wedges. Cool 10 minutes. Run a knife around the edges of the shortbread to loosen; invert onto a wire rack to cool completely. Cut along scored lines using a sharp knife.

## Shortcut Sugar Cookies

**MAKES** about 4 dozen cookies

**WORKING TIME** 35 minutes

**TOTAL TIME** 1 hour, 20 minutes

**1 (16.5 ounce) package  
refrigerated ready-made  
sugar cookie dough**

**1/2 cup all-purpose flour, spooned  
and leveled, plus more for  
surface and pressing cookies**  
**Glass with a 2-inch decorative  
bottom**

**Decorative sugars and candies**

**1.** On a well-floured surface knead dough until soft. Knead flour into dough until incorporated.

**2.** On a floured surface, roll dough  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch thick. Cut cookies using a 2-inch round cutter. Dip the bottom of the glass in flour and firmly press cookies to create a pattern. Sprinkle with sanding sugar. Reroll dough as necessary.

**3.** Bake according to package directions. Press candy into warm cookies. Cool completely on a wire rack.

## TAKE AN EVEN SHORTER SHORTCUT

These chocolate sandwich cookies are our favorite new mail-order dessert. (We won't blame you if you pass them off as homemade.)



**Cocoa & Cream Cookies, \$16 for  
12; calliesbiscuits.goldbely.com**



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\*Voted Most Trusted Egg Brand by American shoppers. Based on the 2015 BrandSpark/Better Homes and Gardens American Shopper Study.



[egglandsbest.com](http://egglandsbest.com)



## PRIZE PICKS

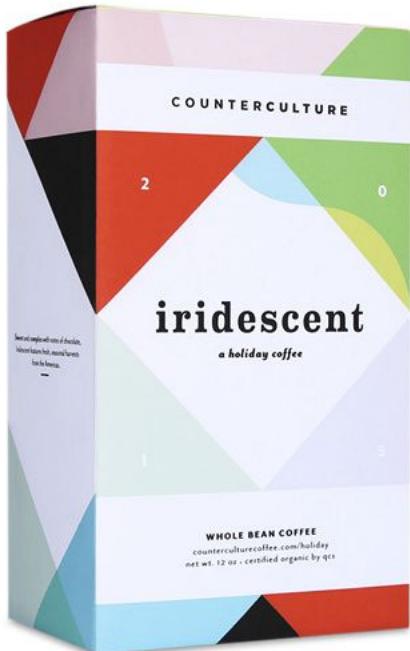
Panettone is a type of Italian sweet bread.



### SWEETEST CHRISTMAS MORNING INDULGENCE

This fruit-filled panettone from a beloved New York bakery is now available via mail-order.

\$25; [ilbucovineria.com](http://ilbucovineria.com)



### MOST MINTY-FRESH FIND

Peppermint-oil extract adds a kick to desserts, hot chocolate, and more. [nielsen-massey.com](http://nielsen-massey.com) for stores

### GUILT-FREE CAFFEINE FIX

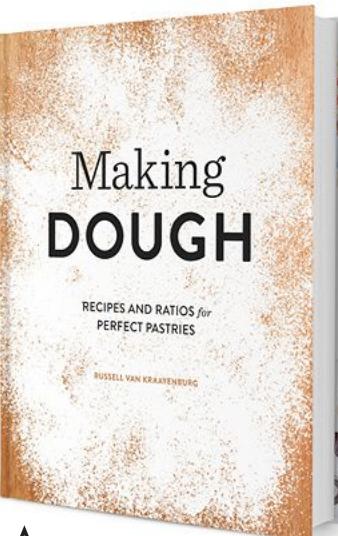
A portion of the proceeds from Counter Culture Coffee's latest seasonal offering benefits coffee growers around the world. \$14; [counterculturecoffee.com](http://counterculturecoffee.com)



### BEST COOKBOOK FOR BAKING ENTHUSIASTS

Featuring step-by-step illustrations, this primer helps wannabe bakers rise to the occasion.

\$25; [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)



### THE LATEST, GRATE-EST KITCHEN GADGET

Introducing a hard-working stainless steel cheese grater that's shaped like—yes!—a cowbell! \$65; [alessi.com](http://alessi.com)



### THE HEALTHIEST NEW WAY TO SNACK

Just add kernels to the fill line of the Chef'n Pop Top, close the tab, and microwave for up to 10 cups of homemade popcorn. \$20; [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

### BEST SIDEKICK FOR ALL THINGS SAVORY

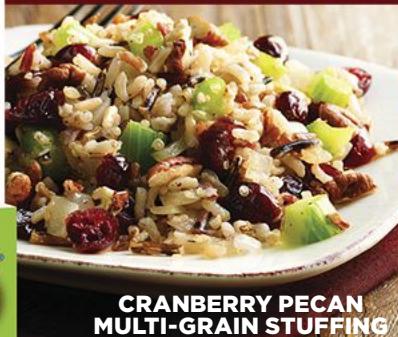
Serve this small-batch, Vermont-made mint jelly with your holiday lamb or a festive cheese plate. \$7; [halifaxhollow.etsy.com](http://halifaxhollow.etsy.com)

EASY TO MAKE • EASY TO

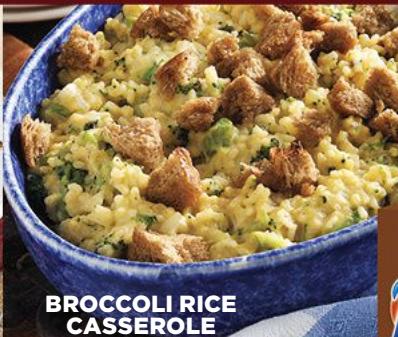
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- (4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail): 0
- c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4)): 1,257,729
- d. (1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541: 315,970
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- (3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail): 0
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- e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4)): 339,338
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- g. Copies not Distributed: 118,031
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# resource guide

YOUR GO-TO GUIDE FOR REPLICATING THE LOOKS IN THIS ISSUE

## COVER

Mini **tree**; [greenvalleychristmastrees.com](http://greenvalleychristmastrees.com).  
**Horse ornaments**; [homart.com](http://homart.com). Vintage **striped ornaments**; [bethanylowe.com](http://bethanylowe.com). Mini globe **string lights**; [lightsforalloccasions.com](http://lightsforalloccasions.com). Birch **logs**; [wilsonevergreens.com](http://wilsonevergreens.com). Preserved cedar **wreath**; [shopterrain.com](http://shopterrain.com). Wooden Christmas **trees**; [roostco.com](http://roostco.com). **Garland**; [hothousedesigns.com](http://hothousedesigns.com). Pom-pom **garland**; [landofnod.com](http://landofnod.com). May Arts **ribbon**; [ribbonresource.com](http://ribbonresource.com). Tree farm one-sided **kraft paper**; [smockpaper.com](http://smockpaper.com). Tribal **wrapping paper**; [www.carolinecreations.com](http://www.carolinecreations.com). Belgian **linen wrap**; [casparionline.com](http://casparionline.com). **Plaid gift wrap**; [smudgeink.com](http://smudgeink.com). **Gingham stocking**; [serenaandlily.com](http://serenaandlily.com). **Seed sack stockings**; [catnapcottage.etsy.com](http://catnapcottage.etsy.com). Flame Finola **rug**; [luluandgeorgia.com](http://luluandgeorgia.com). Red Color Twist **wool**; [knotandbow.com](http://knotandbow.com).

## WHAT IS IT? WHAT IS IT WORTH?

**PAGE 21 Scale**; [catnipalley.etsy.com](http://catnipalley.etsy.com). **PAGE 22 Stocking**; [luvredford.etsy.com](http://luvredford.etsy.com). **Dreidel charm**; [thegryphonsnest.rubylane.com](http://thegryphonsnest.rubylane.com). **PAGE 24 Shiny Brites**; [thisthatandchristmas.etsy.com](http://thisthatandchristmas.etsy.com). **Bubble lights**; [unclekitto.etsy.com](http://unclekitto.etsy.com). **Tin**; [hazelhome.etsy.com](http://hazelhome.etsy.com). **PAGE 25 Skates**; [jansvintagestuff.etsy.com](http://jansvintagestuff.etsy.com).

## LET YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE SING A NEW TUNE!

**THROUGHOUT** **Christmas trees**; [greenvalleychristmastrees.com](http://greenvalleychristmastrees.com). **PAGE 35** Red embroidered **shams**; [coyuchi.com](http://coyuchi.com) for similar. Antique painted barley twist **table**; [found.home.sqsp.com](http://found.home.sqsp.com). Santa and reindeer **garland**; [bethanylowe.com](http://bethanylowe.com). **PAGE 36 Cards and wrapping paper**; all from [rifleepaperco.com](http://rifleepaperco.com). Denim rag rug; [dashandalbert.com](http://dashandalbert.com). **PAGE 37** Tiny Forest fawn **ornament** and Frost Flight owl **ornament**; both from [codyfosterandco.com](http://codyfosterandco.com). Antique pink bamboo **ski poles**, kilim **runner**, and English **gathering basket**; all from [found.home.sqsp.com](http://found.home.sqsp.com). **PAGE 38 Bell ornament** traditional; [bethanylowe.com](http://bethanylowe.com). Assorted **jingle bells**; all from [joann.com](http://joann.com). Nordic Star crimson wool woven **rug**; [dashandalbert.com](http://dashandalbert.com). **PAGE 39 Special Delivery house**; [codyfosterandco.com](http://codyfosterandco.com). Tejn sheepskin **rug**; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com).

## A MERRY AND BRIGHT KITCHEN MAKEOVER

**THROUGHOUT** **Kitchen design**, Cindy Black; [hellokitchen.com](http://hellokitchen.com). **Lead project personnel** from Franklin & Associates; designer Chris Janca and builder Kevin Flasko. **Paint**, HGTV HOME™ by Sherwin-Williams, available at Lowe's; [painton.com](http://painton.com). **Counter surfaces**, Wilsonart; [wilsonart.com](http://wilsonart.com). **Fixtures**, Moen; [moen.com](http://moen.com). **Cabinetry**, Schuler; [schulercabinetry.com](http://schulercabinetry.com). **PAGE 40** **Coconut cake**; [mainstreetcupcakes.com](http://mainstreetcupcakes.com). Willamette **light fixture** with HP-4408-08-4SH shade and Alabax small **light fixture**; both from [schoolhouseelectric.com](http://schoolhouseelectric.com). Ball cabinet **knob** and Massey bin **pull**;

both from [rejuvenation.com](http://rejuvenation.com). Kathryn **rug** in parchment and stone; [birchlane.com](http://birchlane.com). Three-piece galvanized metal **canister** set; [wayfair.com](http://wayfair.com). Harper **door** style in cottage white coastal finish; [schulercabinetry.com](http://schulercabinetry.com). Hudson **bar stools**; [worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com). **PAGE 42** Eon side **chair**; [wayfair.com](http://wayfair.com). Walter G **pillows**; [studiodournyc.com](http://studiodournyc.com) for similar. Glitter **Pinecone Wreath**; [shopterrain.com](http://shopterrain.com). Medium Eugene **pendant light**; [circlighting.com](http://circlighting.com). Butler **sconce** with HP-2274-04-2.25SH shade; [schoolhouseelectric.com](http://schoolhouseelectric.com). Vega Brown **fabric**; [stroheim.com](http://stroheim.com). **PAGE 42** Gotham Hex antique white **tile** with flower; [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com). Factory Modern Satellite 2 **light fixture**; [schoolhouseelectric.com](http://schoolhouseelectric.com). Truss Maple butcher block **laminate**; [wilsonart.com](http://wilsonart.com).

## HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**THROUGHOUT** For items similar to those found throughout the home, visit [cargonorth.com](http://cargonorth.com). **Greenery**; [wilsonevergreens.com](http://wilsonevergreens.com). **PAGE 69** **Christmas tree**, North Countree Christmas, Inc.; [northcountree.com](http://northcountree.com). **PAGE 72** Pinzon lightweight cotton **flannel sheet set**; [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

## HAVE YOURSELF A VERY COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

**PAGE 76** **Birch logs**; [wilsonevergreens.com](http://wilsonevergreens.com). **PAGE 77 Fabric**, Glenwood Check in Malachite; [stroheim.com](http://stroheim.com). Deck Yourself **holiday card**; [mymcdowell.com](http://mymcdowell.com). Out of Sight **card**; [ladyfingersletterpress.com](http://ladyfingersletterpress.com). Making Sprints Bright **card**; [1canoe2.com](http://1canoe2.com). Foil Joyeux Noel stripe trees **card**; [fermeapapier.com](http://fermeapapier.com). Champagne **holiday card**; [sugarpaper.com](http://sugarpaper.com). Merry Santa, Joy, Merry Christmas, Holiday Brownstone, Holiday High Five, and Peace Partridge **cards**; all from [eggpress.com](http://eggpress.com). Mount Pudding, Naughty or Nice, and White Beard **cards**; all from [paperlesspost.com](http://paperlesspost.com).

## MERRY AND WHITE

**PAGE 82** **Candle sticks**; [sprucemn.com](http://sprucemn.com). White geo glass **ornaments**; [homart.com](http://homart.com). **PAGE 84** **Planters**; [sprucemn.com](http://sprucemn.com). **PAGE 85** Hand-dyed Lithuanian **table runner**; [kcolette.com](http://kcolette.com). White and gold **vessels**; [sprucemn.com](http://sprucemn.com). Antler **centerpiece**; [serenaandlily.com](http://serenaandlily.com). **PAGE 87** Blue **throw pillow**; [marimekko.com](http://marimekko.com) for similar. Blue **throw**; [kcolette.com](http://kcolette.com).

## THE EVERYTHING GUIDE TO HOLIDAY COOKIES

**PAGE 91 Tag**; [lemoncatshop.etsy.com](http://lemoncatshop.etsy.com). **PAGE 92** 4.5" x 2" x 10.75" plastic **bag**; [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). Metal rim **tags**; [hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com). **PAGE 95** Light aqua **rickrack**; [niftythriftdrygoods.etsy.com](http://niftythriftdrygoods.etsy.com). Mother-of-pearl **dye button**; [mjtrims.com](http://mjtrims.com). **PAGE 96** Vintage red **labels**; [anythinggoeshere.etsy.com](http://anythinggoeshere.etsy.com). **PAGE 97 Ribbon**; [thestockroom.etsy.com](http://thestockroom.etsy.com). **PAGE 98** 3.75" x 6.25" glassine **bags**; [srmstore.com](http://srmstore.com). Vintage **ribbon**; [passedby.etsy.com](http://passedby.etsy.com).

**RULES FROM PAGE 4** NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. Find the Horseshoe Sweepstakes. Sponsored by Hearst Communications, Inc. Beginning November 3, 2015 at 12:00 AM (ET) through December 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM (ET), go to [countryliving.com/win](http://countryliving.com/win) on a computer or wireless device and complete and submit the entry form pursuant to the on-screen instructions. Readers can submit the page number from the December 2015 issue of *Country Living* where they found the hidden horseshoe (not required for entry). Important Notice: You may be charged for visiting the mobile website in accordance with the terms of your service agreement with your carrier. One (1) Winner(s) will receive one Smeg 50's Retro Style Aesthetic Refrigerator (ARV: \$1,999). Odds of winning will depend upon the total number of eligible entries received. Open to legal residents of the 50 United States and the District of Columbia, who have reached the age of majority in their state or territory of residence at time of entry. Legal residents of Canada (excluding Quebec) who have reached the aforementioned age in their province of residence at time of entry are also eligible to enter. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Sweepstakes subject to complete official rules available at [countryliving.com/win](http://countryliving.com/win).

**RULES FROM PAGE 7** NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. The *Country Living* Dozen March 2016 Contest. Sponsored by Hearst Communications, Inc. Beginning November 3, 2015 at 12:00 AM (ET) through December 22, 2015 at 12:00 PM (ET) (the "Entry Period"), go to [countryliving.com/march16](http://countryliving.com/march16) on a computer or wireless device and fill out the form. Readers must submit, in 20 words or less, what they are most looking forward to in March. Winner selected based on the following criteria: originality 50% and creativity 50%. Important Notice: You may be charged for visiting the mobile website in accordance with the terms of your service agreement with your carrier. Twelve (12) Winners may have their caption appear in a future issue of *Country Living* magazine, and each will receive a copy of *Country Living Christmas Joys* (Total ARV: \$360). Must be a legal resident of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia or Canada (excluding Quebec) who has reached the age of majority in his or her state, territory, or province of residence at time of entry. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Contest is subject to complete official rules available at [countryliving.com/march16](http://countryliving.com/march16).

**RULES FROM PAGE 48** NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. Write a Caption for This Pet Photo December 2015 Contest. Sponsored by Hearst Communications, Inc. Beginning November 10, 2015 at 12:01 AM (ET) through December 29, 2015 at 11:59 PM (ET) (the "Entry Period"), go to [countryliving.com/petcaption](http://countryliving.com/petcaption) on a computer or wireless device and fill out the form pursuant to the on-screen instructions, including your best photo caption to the displayed photograph (20 words or less). Winner selected based on the following criteria: originality 50% and creativity 50%. Important Notice: You may be charged for visiting the mobile website in accordance with the terms of your service agreement with your carrier. One Winner may have their caption appear in a future issue of *Country Living* magazine and will receive four tubes of Petsmile toothpaste (ARV: \$100) and a \$500 gift card. Must be a legal resident of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia or Canada (excluding Quebec) who has reached the age of majority in his or her state, territory, or residence at time of entry. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Contest is subject to complete official rules available at [countryliving.com/petcaption](http://countryliving.com/petcaption).

**RULES FROM PAGE 8** NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. December *Country Living* Daily Sweepstakes and December *Country Living* Grand Prize Sweepstakes (the "Sweepstakes"): Beginning December 1, 2015 at 12:00 AM (ET) through December 12, 2015 at 11:59 P.M. (ET) (the "Entry Period"), go to [countryliving.com/12days](http://countryliving.com/12days) on a computer or wireless device and fill out the form. The next day's daily Sweepstakes begins at 12:00 AM (ET). Winner(s) of the December *Country Living* Daily Sweepstakes will be posted on [countryliving.com](http://countryliving.com) on or around five days after the date of the last daily Sweepstakes. Entrants may enter each daily Sweepstakes one time during each 24 hour time frame. Each daily Sweepstakes is a separate drawing and must be entered separately. Multiple entries for a single daily Sweepstakes will be disqualified. Please note that all eligible entries for each day of the daily Sweepstakes will be aggregated and the Grand Prize Winner will be selected from all the eligible entries for this month's daily Sweepstakes.

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